

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE JOINTLY WITH
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E:

JULISSA FERRERAS-COPELAND
Chairperson

VANESSA L. GIBSON
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ydanis A. Rodriguez
James G. Van Bramer
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Corey D. Johnson
Mark Levine
I. Daneek Miller
Helen K. Rosenthal
Vincent M. Ignizio
Vincent G. Gentile
James Vacca
Jumaane D. Williams
Chaim M. Deutsch

Rafael Espinal, Jr.
Rory I. Lancman
Ritchie J. Torres
Steven Matteo

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

William Bratton
Commissioner
New York City Police Department

Benjamin B. Tucker
First Deputy Commissioner
New York City Police Department

Vincent Grippo
Deputy Commissioner of Management and Budget
New York City Police Department

Carlos Gomez
Chief of Patrol
New York City Police Department

Joanne Jaffe
Chief Community Affairs Bureau
New York City Police Department

Michael Julian
Deputy Commissioner of Personnel
New York City Police Department

John Miller
Deputy Commissioner
Intelligence and Counterterrorism
New York City Police Department

Theresa Shortell
Assistant Chief
NYC Police Academy
New York City Police Department

Robert Johnson
Bronx County District Attorney

Cyrus Vance
New York County District Attorney

LeRoy Frazer
Chief of Staff
Kings County District Attorney

Richard Brown
Queens County District Attorney

Daniel Master
Acting Richmond District Attorney

Bridget Brennan
Special Narcotics Prosecutor
Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor

John M. Ryan
Chief Assistant District Attorney
Queens County District Attorney's Office

[sound check, pause]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Good

morning and welcome to the City Council's fourth day of hearing with the Mayor--on the Mayor's Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2016. My name is Julissa Ferreras-Copeland, and I chair the Finance Committee. We are joined by the Committee on Public Safety, chaired by my colleague, Council Member Vanessa Gibson. We've been joined by Council Members Matteo, Rodriguez, Vacca and Lancman. Today we will hear from the Police Department, the five District Attorneys and the Special Narcotics Prosecutor. Before we begin, I'd like to thank the Finance Division staff for putting this hearing together. Including the Director Latonia McKinney, the Chief Counsel Tanisha Edwards, Assistant Counsel Rebecca Chasen, Deputy Directors Regina Poreda Ryan and Nathan Toth, Unit Head Eisha Wright, Finance Analyst Ellen Eng, and the Finance Division Administrative Support Unit Nicole Anderson, Maria Pagan, and Roberta Caturano, who have put everything together for today. Thank you all for your efforts.

I'd also like to remind everyone that the public will be invited to testify on the last day of

1 public hearings on June 9th beginning at
2 approximately 1:30 p.m. in this room. For members of
3 the public who wish to testify, but cannot attend the
4 hearing you can email your testify to the Finance
5 Division at financetestimony@council.nyc.gov, and the
6 staff will make it a part of the official record.

8 Today's Executive Budget hearing starts
9 the Police Department. The NYPD's Fiscal 2016
10 Executive Budget totals \$4.9 billion, which is an
11 \$80.3 million dollars more than in Fiscal 2015's
12 adopted budget. As you all know, my focus as finance
13 chair has been on increasing transparency in the
14 City's budget. Unfortunately, there still remains
15 severe lack of transparency to NYPD's budget. This
16 Council has repeatedly engaged with the NYPD and the
17 Administration to find a resolution to this problem,
18 but so far we have seen no change. Or, of specific
19 concerns is the ambiguous and overbroad unit of [sic]
20 appropriation 001, which contains 60% of the agency's
21 entire budget. The Council has made several
22 suggestions for how to increase transparency such as
23 breaking up the U of A or budgeting over time by
24 program area. But we have been met with resistance
25 by the NYPD and look forward to addressing this issue

1 today and in the coming weeks, and perhaps hearing
2 some feedback from the Police Department and in the
3 coming weeks and perhaps hearing some feedback from
4 the Police Department on what it believes to be a
5 feasible solution. In addition, I look forward to
6 hearing testimony today regarding the NYPD's
7 participation in the Administration's new Citywide
8 Savings Program. Through this program, the Office of
9 Management and Budget has asked all agencies to
10 identifies efficiencies, alternative funding sources
11 and programmatic changes that would yield budgetary
12 savings without reducing service levels. Amazingly,
13 the NYPD could not come with one single item of
14 savings for Fiscal 2016 or beyond. Moreover, the
15 only savings the agency presented for Fiscal 2015
16 were increases were increases in the revenue for
17 reimbursements that it was entitled to receive
18 regardless of the Savings Program. I find it hard to
19 believe that it could not identify more efficiencies
20 that would be implemented, particularly the NYPD has
21 previously acknowledged that overtime spending is
22 too--is just much too high. I would also like to
23 hear testimony regarding the lack of new capital
24 funding towards a renovation of precincts. In our
25

1 Preliminary Budget Response, the Council renewed its
2 call for modernization and we rehabilitation of the
3 city's 77 police precincts. We highlight several
4 precincts the 7--the 5th, the 60th, the 77th and the
5 110th precincts that were identified as in need of
6 major renovations. Unfortunately, however, the
7 NYPD's Capital Commitment Plan and Ten-Year Capital
8 Plan does not include new capital funding towards
9 major repair of these precincts.
10

11 Before we begin, I'd like to remind my
12 colleagues that the first round of questions for the
13 agencies will be limited to five minutes per council
14 member, and if council members have additional
15 questions, we will have a second round of questions
16 at three minutes per council member. I understand
17 that the Commissioner has to leave promptly at 12:30
18 today. So, we will be adhering to this rule strictly
19 to ensure everyone has an opportunity to ask
20 questions. I will now turn my mic over to my Co-
21 Chair Council Member Gibson for her statement, and
22 then we will hear from NYPD Commissioner Bratton.

23 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Thank you very much,
24 Madam Chair. Good morning to each and every one of
25 you. It is a pleasure to be here. I am Council

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE JOINTLY WITH
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

10

1 Member Vanessa Gibson of the 16th District in the
2 beautiful Borough of the Bronx, and I'm proud to be
3 here chairing the committee on Public Safety. And I
4 welcome all of you here to this joint budget hearing
5 on the Committees on Finance and Public Safety as we
6 hear Fiscal 2016's Executive Budget. Today, we will
7 hear from the NYPD Commissioner Bratton and then our
8 New York City's prosecutors. I want to thank
9 everyone for being here, all of the members of the
10 City Council Committee on Public Safety and Finance,
11 as well as others who will be joining us.

12
13 In March, we discussed several new
14 initiatives concerns and budget highlights from the
15 Preliminary Plan. Since that time, the Council has
16 released its Preliminary Budget Response. I, as well
17 as many of the rest of the council members were
18 disappointed to see that none of our proposals were
19 added in the FY16 Executive Budget. The Council
20 renew it's call for raising the headcount at the
21 NYPD, Civilianization, uniform, overtime control,
22 budget transparency and capital funds for preset
23 renovations and rehabilitations. In addition to our
24 renewed calls, we added a call to hire additional
25 school crossing guards, as well as school safety

1 agents. No actions or funds were included in the
2 Fiscal 2016 Executive Plan to address many of these
3 concerns. The NYPD has a major role in the delivery
4 of public safety across this great city. The
5 Council's call reflected the necessary resources that
6 we believe are necessary to enhance and improve the
7 quality of life for all New Yorkers. To that end, we
8 are this morning to discuss the Fiscal 2016 Executive
9 Budget, which totals \$4.9 billion representing an \$80
10 million increase from the FY15 Adopted Budget. Some
11 of the Executive Plan highlights are additional
12 funding for body cameras, Victim Advocates
13 Initiative, and an expansion of the Gunshot Detection
14 Program known as Shot Spotter. The Department's
15 Capital Program saw significant changes as well. The
16 Ten-Year Capital Program saw significant changes as
17 well. The Ten-Year Capital Program and the Capital
18 Commitment Plan both increased significantly. Some
19 of these changes can be attributed to additional
20 funds for the new Property Clerk facility a five-year
21 initiative to renovate man of the department's
22 precinct bathrooms, and the initial phase of the
23 department's Sustainable Technology Initiative.
24
25

1
2 We have a lot to go through this morning,
3 and so I want to acknowledge many of the staffers
4 that are part of the Public Safety team. They really
5 helped me as a chair. I want to recognize and thank
6 all of them for their help. My Legislative Counsel
7 Gollob and Deepa Ambekar; my Legislative Analyst
8 Laurie Wenn; Financial Analyst Ellen Eng; Community
9 Engagement Unit, Faiza Ali; the Policy and Innovation
10 Unit, Theo Moore; and my Communications Director,
11 Dana Wax. I want to thank all of you again for being
12 here and now I'll turn this hearing back over to our
13 Chair, Chair Ferreras-Copeland.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
15 you, Chair Gibson. [banging noise] We've been joined
16 by Council Members Ignizio, Gentile and Rosenthal,
17 and now, Commissioner, I will--you'll be sworn in by
18 our counsel and then you can begin your testimony.

19 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Do you affirm that
20 your testimony will be truthful to the best of your
21 knowledge, information and belief?

22 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I do. Good
23 morning. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss
24 the Mayor's--Mayor's Executive Budget for the 2016
25 Fiscal Year. It's a pleasure to be here, and to

1 testify before the members of the Council about the
2 exceptional work being done by the men and women of
3 the NYPD. I'll be reading an abridged version of the
4 written testimony that has been submitted to you
5 previously. I'm joined at the table by First Deputy
6 Commissioner Ben Tucker. To my left, Deputy
7 Commissioner of Management and Budget, Vinny Grippo
8 and Chief of Patrol, Carlos Gomez. When Mayor de
9 Blasio swore--and as well as significant members of
10 the executive staff in response to some of the
11 questions that we received from the Council prior to
12 this meeting. We have brought over those executive
13 staff members who might be able to provide more
14 detail and answers if those questions arise during
15 our discussions.
16

17 When Mayor de Blasio swore me in 17
18 months ago, he charged me to reduce crime even
19 further; to make our streets and neighborhoods safer;
20 to make sure we are safe from the threat of
21 terrorism, which looms over us everyday; to make sure
22 that the NYPD is the cutting edge of innovation in
23 pioneering police strategies; and to foster and
24 deeper relationships between the police and
25 communities they serve. The Mayor gave me this

1
2 mandate because he and I believe in safer, fairer
3 city for all New Yorkers, and also the police
4 officers who risk their lives to protect them. The
5 new Crime Patrol and Counterterrorism may be part of
6 a safer city--

7 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
8 Commissioner Bratton.]

9 [gavel]

10 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Sergeant-
11 at-Arms can you please remove this individual.

12 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: We knew crime
13 control and counterterrorism may be part of a safer,
14 fairer city, and knew it would not be easy. I spent
15 nearly 50 years in this profession, and crime control
16 has never been easy, and it's something that just
17 happens. It requires applied effort and applied
18 resources, well-trained men and women and sufficient
19 numbers of the right equipment deployed in the right
20 ways with the right support. We also knew that part
21 of a safer, fairer city would be addressing our
22 relationship with New York's many communities. As
23 long before the events of last summer or last
24 December we've seen the results of effective crime
25 control marred by misapplied effort. Some

1 communities felt over-policed and under-protected.
2 High levels of police activity antagonized the very
3 communities where police are often most needed. At
4 the same time, our offices felt overburdened and
5 undervalued. High levels of oversight and discipline
6 made them feel alienated and unsupported by the
7 department, neither respected nor trusted to offer
8 fair, effective policing.
9

10 Seventeen months ago these were our
11 challenges: Crime control and counterterrorism
12 antagonized communities and alienated cops. But
13 during 2014, they were compound by two additional
14 challenges we did not foresee. The first has been
15 called the Great Divide. It is a national crisis of
16 confidence in the criminal justice system centered on
17 America's original sin, racial injustice. It
18 culminated with a series of protests that were the
19 most emotionally charged that I have seen in my 50-
20 year career, and have not seen since the 1960s. When
21 protestors chant, "What do we want? Dead cops" then
22 we have gone too far as a society. What did it lead
23 to? Unfortunately, two dead cops. It took the
24 assassination of two of our officers to bring a
25 measure of calm to the turmoil.

1
2 The second challenge was a new terrorist
3 threat that was all but unknown when Mayor de Blasio
4 took office. It is decentralized and much harder to
5 protect than threats orchestrated by Al-Qaeda.
6 Presented under the banner of ISIS, it is marked by
7 effective messaging and solitary lone wolf actors.
8 Terrorists, who operate outside the counter-command
9 systems ourselves that we've learned to penetrate and
10 dismantle it. Both of these challenges have put new
11 stresses on the department even as we strive to make
12 a safer, fairer New York City. Insofar as safer is
13 concerned, the City crime decline since 1990 is well
14 known as the chart reflects, an 80% decrease in
15 overall major crime with murders falling from 2,245
16 to 333 last year, a modern all-time low. During the
17 same 25-year span, the city's population has grown by
18 1.1 million. Tourist visits nearly doubled to 56
19 million, and the economy has boomed with 300,000
20 technology jobs now located in New York City.
21 Burglaries are down 86.3% and 83.5% since 1990,
22 burglaries and robberies and saw modern lows in 2014.
23 Robbery particularly dropped an astonishing 13.5%
24 from 2013 to 2014 against already low numbers.

1
2 Securing crime reductions against such a
3 low baseline is not easy. Some police report that
4 overall this crime decline is continuing. Year to
5 date, and this information is slightly more up to
6 date than what's in the submitted testimony. Year to
7 date overall major crime is 6.9% lower than the same
8 period in 2014, and 7.9% lower than 2013. We have
9 seen increases this year in shootings and homicides.
10 Shootings are up 6%.

11 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
12 Commissioner Bratton.]

13 [gavel]

14 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Sergeant-
15 at-Arms, please remove this individual out.

16 [gavel]

17 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
18 Commissioner Bratton.]

19 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: That's right,
20 everybody wants to get into the act. He keeps
21 wanting to get into the act. He never does. We've
22 seen increases in shootings and homicides. Shootings
23 are up 6% and homicides are up 14 incidents, several
24 of which are actually reclassifications from previous
25 years. These increases drive home the idea that we

1 cannot rest. Also regard to safer--with regard to
2 safer, I want to thank the Council once again for
3 helping make offices safer via the new maximum
4 coverage bulletproof vest. I have one here. I have
5 one here, and we have a photo of the recent
6 distribution of over 4,400 of these vests at the
7 Police Academy. In June, we're measuring another
8 group of officers, and that distribution will
9 continue in the months ahead. Thanks to the funds
10 from you and the Mayor, we finished distributing some
11 4,300 vests yesterday. That's the updated figure.
12 They were distributed to offices who did--who did not
13 already have the maximum cover versions. The new
14 vests proved that many of you are concerned about the
15 safety of the men and women of the department, the
16 majority of whom are residents of this city and your
17 constituents.

19 With regard to fairer, we have dozens of
20 initiatives designed to help us connect with and
21 serve citizens better. To mention just one example,
22 we are conducting a language access pilot program in
23 the 50, 52, and 102 precincts, in which officers
24 responding to domestic violence complaints will be
25 asked to use Language Line or a certified translator

1 before they leave the scene. We anticipate expanding
2 that program. That program will be significantly
3 assisted by the Smart Phones that every police
4 officer will receive that has an app for translation
5 of foreign languages. Furthermore, we have continued
6 to control crime even as we have decreased
7 enforcement actions, arrests, summonses, and
8 reasonable suspicion stops by more than 800,000 when
9 comparing 2014 to 2011. Those reductions continue
10 this year. Reasonable suspicion stops particularly
11 were down more than 90% from a high of nearly 700,000
12 stops in 2011 to just over 46,000 in 2014. Yet,
13 proportionately in 2014, more than twice as many of
14 the stops resulting arrests as compared to 2011.
15 This reinforces that while we are stopping many fewer
16 people, we are stopping more for the right reasons.
17 In the first quarter of 2015, marijuana arrests were
18 down by 60% for the first--compared to the first
19 quarter of 2014. Criminal trespass arrests are down
20 23%, and criminal court summonses are down 30%.

22 I call these decreases in enforcement a
23 Police Dividend. It is the payoff of a crime decline
24 and indicative of a new normal when looking at crime
25 and disorder in New York. The Police Dividend is

1
2 characterize by 800,000 fewer enforcement actions,
3 but not 800,000 fewer contacts between officers and
4 citizens. Cops are still interacting with people in
5 this great city, but they're learning that there are
6 alternatives to enforcement that can create
7 equivalent changes in behavior.

8 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
9 Commissioner Bratton.]

10 [gavel]

11 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Sergeant-
12 at-Arms, please remove this individual.

13 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
14 Commissioner Bratton.]

15 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: An example of what
16 we're up against. But while we encourage officers to
17 use their discretion to resolve low-level crime and
18 disorder, it is essential to retain the criminal
19 charges that are--

20 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
21 Commissioner Bratton]

22 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Sergeant-
23 at-Arms, please remove this individual. One more
24 outburst and we will clear this gallery of all
25 public.

1
2 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
3 Commissioner Bratton.]

4 [gavel]

5 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: One more
6 outbreak and we will remove all public.

7 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
8 Commissioner Bratton.]

9 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: But while we
10 encourage our officers to use their discretion to
11 resolve low-level crime and disorder, it is essential
12 to retain the criminal charges that allow officers to
13 exercise their discretion. We cannot decriminalize
14 certain offenses and thereby disenpower officers from
15 maintaining the order New York--New Yorkers want them
16 to maintain, and which they have come to expect.
17 Instead, we can explore instituting parallel civil
18 penalties. I look forward to discussions that we
19 have advocated for, and that will be led by Council
20 Speaker--the Council Speaker and Liz Glazer from the
21 Mayor's Office in the coming weeks and months. But
22 make no mistake, I still believe in and adhere to
23 *Broken Windows* and so does the Mayor, and so do the
24 people of this city according to the most recent
25 Quinnipiac Poll. Our recently published report,

1
2 *Broken Windows and Quality-of-Life Policing*, which
3 all of you in the Council have received, clearly
4 demonstrates this. The *Broken Windows* report is
5 available online. It illustrates that our
6 enforcement is responsive and not capricious.

7 The public has noticed in 2014 in a
8 police department of 35,000 officers that makes tens
9 of millions of interactions each year, there were
10 4,778 complaints made to the Civilian Complaint
11 Review Board. 4,778, 35,000 officers, tens of
12 millions of interactions. Down 11.9% since 2013.
13 CCRB complaints are down an additional 33% in the
14 first quarter of 2015. This does not reflect a
15 Police Department that is out of contact with the
16 communities it serves. *Broken Windows* is not jail
17 tolerance and it never was. It never will be.
18 Addressing conditions does not act in reinforcement
19 or arrests. Any visits to our CompStat sessions will
20 show you as much, and I have extended an invitation
21 to each of you on the Council to attend those
22 CompStat sessions. The Speaker and several members
23 have attended. I believe that they found it
24 enlightening and informative.

1
2 A significant part of *Broken Windows*
3 enforcement is requested by our constituents, as
4 documented by our 311 and 911 calls for service.
5 Indeed, many of them will be questioned by you. With
6 the upcoming summer months I can guarantee I will
7 hear from everyone of you about noise complaints,
8 about barbecues on the sidewalk, about large
9 gatherings that are causing disturbances in your
10 districts. So even you are significantly asking for
11 our Broken Windows Quality-of-Life Enforcement.

12 Chief of Department James O'Neal and
13 Deputy Commissioner of Operations Dermot Shea, who
14 run the CompStat meetings care about all of these
15 call and they care about results, not numbers.
16 Results are safer communities and save lives. That
17 is why the recent increase in shootings has given us
18 pause. As while overall crime is down, shootings are
19 up although by relatively small numbers. The
20 increase gives us pause not because of the number.
21 The year-to-date increase of 6% over last year from
22 364 to 386, 22 more incidents. If it were just about
23 the number, we would take comfort in the fact that it
24 is still the third lowest year for shootings since
25 accurate records were kept. The increase in

1
2 shootings is not about numbers for the NYPD. The
3 increase is about lives. Lives of victims changed by
4 a bullet, and the lives of the perpetrators changed
5 by pulling the trigger. In our city 95% of those who
6 were shot and 96% of those who shoot are Black and
7 Hispanic, usually from our poorest neighborhoods.
8 Nearly 25% of our shootings this year involved
9 someone on either side of the gun who had been
10 involved in a shooting before as victim or shooter.
11 Including one individual whose been involved in four
12 incidents. These Black and Hispanic lives matter.
13 They matter to me. They matter to my staff, and they
14 matter to my commanders and my cops. To the NYPD all
15 lives matter, including new ones.

16 PROTESTOR: [interposing] [Heckles
17 Commissioner Bratton.]

18 [gavel]

19 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Sergeant-
20 at-Arms, please clear the Chamber of all public. All
21 public, please clear the chamber.

22 SERGEANT-A-ARMS: [off mic] Folks, all
23 rise, please rise, and exit to your left, please.
24 Thank you. Everybody please rise. Will you all

25

1 please rise. Exit to your left please. Thank you.

2 [sic]

3
4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Again,
5 members this is a reminder the Commissioner has 'til
6 12:30 so we're trying to run this hearing as
7 expeditiously as possible to let everyone to have an
8 opportunity to ask their questions of the
9 Commissioner.

10 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I find it
11 regrettable that the civic disrespect displayed by a
12 few results in the need to eject the many members of
13 the public who are here for our civil discourse. And
14 so the disrespect that's shown to this Council and to
15 their fellow members of the public it's unfortunate
16 that the few, the selfish few would seek to interrupt
17 a public process. So, it is again unfortunate that
18 so many of the public who are here to exercise their
19 free rights are interrupted by the few.

20 In our city, as I mentioned, 95% of those
21 who are shot and 96% of those who shoot are Black and
22 Hispanic usually from our poorest neighborhoods. And
23 nearly 25% of our shootings this year involved
24 someone on either side of the gun who has been
25 involved in a shooting before as a victim or shooter.

1
2 Last year in conjunction with the Mayor's Office we
3 worked very hard to keep shootings in 2014 on track
4 with those in 2013, the year with the fewest
5 shootings in modern history. Last summer via the
6 Summer All Out Program and the Mayor's Action for
7 Neighborhood Safety, which the Council supported, we
8 took officers out of regular assignments and put them
9 in the precincts that needed them most. It worked
10 and we kept the 2014 number in line with 2013 through
11 effort and attention. We also applaud the council
12 members, member of you who worked with us in these
13 most troubled precincts during those summer months.
14 We intend to keep 2015 in line as well with 2014 and
15 '13.

16 Chief O'Neal has already planned another
17 Summer All Out. We'll put feet on the beat in
18 neighborhoods where we hear the gunfire, and we'll be
19 starting one month earlier this year. We can self-
20 fund most of these initiatives by temporarily
21 reassigning our officers to the field. But we also
22 need creative additional target enforcement efforts
23 that focus on known offenders. They include programs
24 such as New York City's Cease Fire, the Brownsville
25 Violence Prevention Project and Operation Crew Cut.

1
2 Taking the first as an example, New York City Cease
3 Fire follows a model developed by David Kennedy and
4 the National Network for Safe Communities, one that I
5 first saw and implemented as Police Commissioner in
6 Boston 21 years ago. New York Cease Fire uses a
7 partnership with community members, social service
8 providers, and ten law enforcement agencies to
9 address street crew based violence. It works by
10 providing first a credible community message against
11 violence. Second, a credible law enforcement message
12 about the consequences of further violence. And
13 third, a genuine offer of help for those who want it.
14 Again, in this effort I thank the Council for their
15 support and participation.

16 The Police Dividend for many and target
17 enforcement for the few form a new model. The old
18 model of blanket coverage especially as seen in
19 Operation Impact and high crime [sic] enforcement was
20 effective in its way at its time and reduced crime
21 numbers of the early 2000s and continuing now are
22 reflective. But that volume damaged our relationship
23 with the communities that need us most where we most
24 need to be, and the federal monitor, the Inspector
25 General and the Great Divide reflective. With regard

1 to the Great Divide and the protests last winter, the
2 need for large scale disorder control is not going to
3 go away. New York city is an epicenter for our
4 protests irrespective of whether our city is directly
5 related to what's being protested elsewhere or not.
6

7 Accordingly, we must be prepared to
8 protect the constitutional rights of protestors while
9 ensuring that the safety of their fellow New Yorkers
10 and the operations of this city are not impinged. To
11 meet our responsible--responsibilities safely of the
12 protestors and the citizens and police alike, we have
13 formed the Strategic Response Group by reassigning
14 the exiting borough task forces to SRG, as it's
15 called. We can attain a significant percentage of
16 the unit's personnel needs, but not all. SRG will
17 respond to mobilizations and address crime
18 conditions. They will also be specifically trained
19 to respond to large-scale demonstrations and perform
20 disorder control related functions among other roles.

21 I truly believe that much of the current
22 atmosphere of distrust comes from the fact that the
23 cops in some parts of the community still do not see
24 each other for who we all are. We don't see how much
25 common ground we already have. The Great Divide is

1 real, but it might not be so deep as it appears.

2 Accordingly, we're trying to do a better job of

3 reaching out to the people we serve and telling them

4 our story. Stories about police officers who are

5 always willing to go in harm's way for their city and

6 their fellow citizens. We're using Twitter, Facebook

7 and other social media to tell these stories. Across

8 all our Twitter platforms we have 415,000 followers.

9
10 To understand what our neighborhoods

11 think, feel and need we are using online applications

12 like IdeaScale, a platform that facilitates crowd

13 sourcing on a precinct level. I had a presentation

14 on that at the 109 Precinct yesterday, and we intend

15 to rapidly expand that concept throughout the city.

16 We're also initiating a comprehensive survey similar

17 to one we conducted last spring where we interviewed

18 17,000 New Yorkers in every one of the city's

19 precincts that will gauge citizen sentiment and

20 citizen satisfaction in select precincts. The

21 results will inform our progress in the five key

22 areas that I described when I last spoke before the

23 Council in March. The Five T's: Tackling crime,

24 Technology, Terrorism, Training and Trust. They will

25 form the core of our developing Plan of Action that

1 will be released later this year. All the council
2 members have received a profile of the Five T's. A
3 number of you were at different presentations at
4 College Point Academy that explained it more fully.
5

6 All five are integral to each other, and
7 none stands alone. There is by design a seamless
8 coordination between the five areas. Each works with
9 and relies upon the others. In order for their full
10 benefits to be realized, they must be implemented in
11 tandem. I provided the paper that I referenced to
12 you to describe it a greater length and the Plan of
13 Action will describe it in much more detail.

14 First, Tackling Crime, which indicates
15 the Police Dividend focused and transparency [sic]
16 target enforcement. Another component is the
17 proposed pilot program in four precincts that
18 represents an entirely new neighborhood policing
19 model. I visited the 34 Precinct this morning where
20 that program is now getting underway with our new
21 NCOs and our sector configurations. The cops are
22 very excited about. The community members of the
23 precincts and the business members are very excited
24 about it also. Precinct specialty units will be
25 scaled back in order to increase patrol personnel.

1
2 We have high hopes for neighborhood policing, but
3 expanding it beyond the four pilot precincts and
4 upping staff merely reassigning precinct based or
5 borough based personnel. So we are doing a top-to-
6 bottom analysis of the department to identify
7 resources to help us there.

8 Next, Technology, which includes body
9 cameras and our mobile digital technology. Smart
10 Phones are being given to nearly every officer,
11 almost 35,000 and Tablets are being installed in
12 nearly every patrol car. At the 34 Precinct this
13 morning, last week Tablets were distributed and
14 placed in every patrol car. This morning I was there
15 for the distribution of the Smart Phones to the
16 officers. As I came into the front desk of the 34,
17 there were two prisoners being booked by two
18 uniformed officers. They officers earlier that
19 morning had responded to a robbery call, an
20 individual struck with a bottle who had his phone
21 stolen. The officers using their brand new Tablet
22 when to the Locate Phone app on the Tablet, and began
23 to ping the phone that has just been stolen. They
24 tracked that phone into the Bronx, and the arrested
25 the two suspects immediately within a very short time

1 of the phone being stolen. The first-hand proof of
2 the benefit of that technology, a crime solved almost
3 as soon as it happened using technology. The cops
4 love it and the communities are going to love it
5 because it totally brings us into the 21st Century.
6 And thank the Council for their very active support
7 of the capital budget--budgeting requests to buy
8 those phones and those Tablets.
9

10 The third area of concern is Terrorism, a
11 growing concern. The threat has changed dramatically
12 in the past year. Organized attacks like the one in
13 Paris remain part of the threat picture. With that
14 there is also the lone wolf model devices. We saw
15 that specifically here a few months ago when four of
16 our officers were attacked by an inspired radical
17 wielding a hatchet. To address this new more
18 complicated reality, the NYPD is changing is
19 Counterterrorism Critical Response Team from what
20 it's done for the last 13 years. Instead of drawing
21 more than 350 officers--actually, it's about 700
22 officers a day on the patrol precincts and depleting
23 local precinct resources, the CRTs will be staffed
24 with a dedicated unit of personnel equipped and
25 trained to deal with active shooters and other types

1
2 of terrorist attacks. Those officers will also be
3 available to help deal with demonstrations that may
4 spring up from time to time. We do see the need to
5 bring precinct officers to their various areas of the
6 city to deal with demonstrations.

7 In Training the NYPD is going back to
8 basics and breaking new ground. We are fully
9 utilizing the new \$750 million Academy that many of
10 you have visited. We're establishing a full-scale
11 field training program for our newest officers,
12 partnering them with partner officers specially
13 selected senior officers who act as coaches and
14 mentors. They will also be working with community
15 partners, hundreds of volunteer citizen who as we
16 reassign these new officers coming out of the Academy
17 not to impact assignments but to precincts in transit
18 districts throughout the city. They will be
19 introduced to the communities they are policing in a
20 very different way.

21 All of these T's lead to the most
22 important T, the fifth, Trust. Nearly two centuries
23 ago, Sir Robert Peel out of the Metropolitan Police
24 and of modern policing wrote, "The ability of the
25 police to perform their duties is dependent upon

1
2 public approval of police actions." The NYPD's
3 efforts to maintain and improve the trust of New York
4 City's communities, especially our most vulnerable
5 communities where poverty is entrenched, which are
6 often neighborhoods of color, will be closely tied to
7 the new patrol model. While the Great Divide has
8 been revealed to be far more than just police and
9 citizens, but much about poverty, disenfranchisement
10 and unemployment, this is how we bridge our part of
11 it.

12 Together, the Five T's provide the
13 foundation for our Plan of Action. When this online
14 document is released, it will provide both a road map
15 and a checklist of how the department will evolve
16 over the next decade or more. Than Plan of Action
17 will be released on the web. And so it could be kept
18 contemporary as we update it. The public will be
19 access it. The Council is looking for transparency.
20 Well, that's the ultimate form of transparency where
21 every citizen can access in a moment what's going on
22 in the department as it relates to the plan of
23 action, and as it relates to the community.

24 Turning to the budgetary issues, the
25 subject of today's discussion, the department

1 continues to apply for and take federal assistance to
2 protect members of the public. We are hopeful that
3 the Police Department will be seeing the same amount
4 or somewhat more funding that last fiscal year from
5 the federal government. It is anticipated that
6 preparedness grants will be awarded no later than
7 September 30th of 2015.

9 Now Regarding the Executive Budget and
10 its impact on the Police Department, the Mayor's
11 proposed budget, the department's Fiscal Year 2016
12 City Tax Levy Expense Budget is \$4.6 billion. The
13 vast majority of this, 92 to 93% is allocated for our
14 personnel services. Although it is funded as part of
15 the Preliminary Budget, I would like to mention the
16 Police Cadet Core that you are supporting. The Cadet
17 Corps is designed to ensure that future police
18 officers are both educated and more representative of
19 the city's racial and ethnic diversity. The
20 Preliminary Budget provided \$10 million to hire 520
21 police cadet hires including 50 Housing cadets.
22 These are all kids that live in the city of New York
23 and are attending the city of New York schools who
24 would be hopefully future police officers after they
25 finish their training.

1
2 Highlights, as you're aware, in the city
3 budget include body cameras, 3-8--\$3.8 million for
4 1,500 new units plus subscription and storage.
5 Gunshot detection. We've had great success with the
6 Shot Spotter system, and we're expanding that with
7 your support in the various funds that you control in
8 your respective district. If there is a desire to
9 have additional shots broader technology and camera
10 systems that go with, we would be certainly willing
11 to respond to those individual requests that you
12 might have for that technology in your districts.

13 Victim Advocates. Susan Herman has
14 pushed for and the Mayor's Office has responded, and
15 I hope you will, for \$3.2 million in '15--in Fiscal
16 Year '16 for 25 precincts and three police service
17 areas, up to \$9.5 million in FY18 for 77 precincts
18 and nine PSAs. This will provide for victim
19 advocates in our precincts to assist victims of crime
20 and other forms of disorder.

21 Information Technology and Life Safety
22 Systems Division. \$23 million for 35 personnel as
23 well as Data Center, Disaster Recovery Network
24 upgrade and maintenance needs. This money is
25 desperately needed to make sure our systems don't

1 fail. School Safety After School Overtime. \$3.5
2 million annually for overtime costs related to after
3 school programs. Facilities cleaning contract, a
4 very important one, \$2.6 million to provide annually
5 beginning FY16 for a multi-pronged approach to
6 enhance custodial services across the department's
7 approximate 100 commands, inclusive of precincts,
8 transit districts and PSA. I met this morning and I
9 actually took a photo and Tweeted out of the one
10 custodian that works at the 34 Precinct, one of our
11 most active precincts, and there is one person trying
12 to keep that facility clean. She does an
13 extraordinary job.

14
15 Rodman's Neck and Floyd Bennett Field
16 Training Facilities. Expense funding is being
17 requested to price these projects and the capital
18 projects proposed development program, which would
19 allow for the department to begin design work this
20 year on much needed capital improvements for Rodman's
21 Neck and Floyd Bennett Field, which we would hope to
22 obtain in next year's capital budget.

23 On May 7th, as you're aware, the Mayor
24 released the Fiscal Year 2000--Executive Budget and
25 Commitment Plan, this Budget and Commitment Plan.

1
2 The total Ten-Year Capital Strategy for the Police
3 Department is \$1.48 billion, which covers Fiscal
4 Years 2016 to '25. In this plan the NYPD will
5 receive an additional \$662 million in city and
6 federal capital funds over and above the FY2016
7 Preliminary Budget. The facility improvements,
8 technology, communications upgrade and Hurricane
9 Sandy reconstruction. In the plan, the
10 Administration funded proposed funding in the
11 following: The new Property Clerk Division: \$355
12 million for desperately needed modernization of our
13 facilities.

14 The Model Precinct Program. \$2 million to
15 develop a prototype to acculate--accommodate new and
16 invited community access areas in precincts,
17 precincts that can't be modernized to accommodate the
18 idea of develop a modular design that would allow us
19 to place a modular device next to the precincts.

20 Citywide Bathroom Renovations. Something
21 of significant importance to our--our members.
22 \$37,000 over the next years to renovate 268 bathrooms
23 in department facilities citywide.

24 Beside having crew classes designed to
25 maintain the funded peak headcount by replacing

1
2 officers lost to attrition since the prior class, the
3 peak headcount in FY2015 is 35,437 officers. The
4 July 2014 Police Academy class size was 944 recruits.
5 Of these, 884 graduated in December. The January
6 2015 police officer class size was 891 recruits.
7 They will be graduating in late June. The July 2015
8 class as proposed in the Executive Budget is
9 estimated at approximately 900. The January 2016
10 class will be approximately 725. The projected
11 attrition is approximately 1,650 in Fiscal Year 2015
12 and 1,300 in Fiscal Year 2016.

13 In moving to closure, I'll turn now to
14 overtime costs. In Fiscal Year 2015, overtime costs
15 are projected to total \$683 million, which is \$100
16 million more than the Fiscal Year 2014 actual
17 expenditures of \$583 million. This increase is
18 almost entirely due to major unplanned events. Some
19 initiatives to deal with violence reduction in our
20 housing developments, \$30 million. Garner and
21 Ferguson demonstrations, \$37 million. Enhanced in-
22 service training, the three-day training that 22,000
23 of our officers are going through, \$28 million. And
24 the Spring Violence Initiative was \$2.4 million. At
25 this time, the department does not have overtime

1
2 funding to continue these programs in the new fiscal
3 year. SRG that I described previously will help us
4 address some of these unplanned events in ways that
5 would not involve overtime.

6 In closing, the Year 2015 will be a
7 similar one for the NYPD in our city facing the Great
8 Divide between the police and the community is the
9 challenge of our time, not just in New York but in
10 our country. It's one that I accept and a welcome
11 opportunity that I embrace along with the Mayor.

12 This is our chance to show that we, the police and
13 the public do not exist apart from each other.

14 Because when we see only what we represent instead of
15 who we are, we ultimately don't see anything. Police
16 departments after all, are for people, and in this
17 city many of them are residents of this city. Our
18 communities are the sum of their people. Governments
19 are established, populated and supported by people,
20 and when we talk about policing, we are ultimately
21 talking about people. We're talking about human
22 interaction and the means of opportunities we have to
23 connect with one another. Everything the NYPD is
24 doing from the Police Dividend to focused deterrence
25 to target enforcement, to the Five T's to the new

1
2 Neighborhood Policing Plan, everything is designed to
3 reaffirm what Sir Robert Peel knew in 1829: The
4 police are the public and the public are the police.
5 Lets design to help us, the police and the community
6 to achieve a safer, fairer New York City. I thank
7 you for the opportunity this morning to be here
8 before you, and we look forward to responding to
9 whatever questions or clarifications that you might
10 seek about our presentation. Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
12 you, Commissioner. We are going to have--as Chairs
13 we are going to have a few questions and I'm going to
14 open it up to our colleagues. We've been joined by
15 Council Members Miller, Lander, Crowley, Cornegy,
16 Williams and Treyger. I wanted to focus in on
17 something that I mentioned in my opening statement.
18 The council has a renewed call for more transparency
19 in the department's budget. As I mentioned in my
20 opening statement and in last year's Executive Budget
21 hearings we focused particularly on unit of
22 appropriation 001. Since the Preliminary Budget
23 hearings, NYPD and OMB and the Council staff met to
24 discuss ways to improve the transparency, and the
25 Council's follow-up letter regarding the budget

1
2 transparency provided several suggestions. I just
3 want to know where we are with that. Again, it is--
4 it is very challenging for us from this side to be
5 able to truly work with your budget numbers when you
6 only have them in such lumped up units of
7 appropriation.

8 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: We'll ask our
9 Budget Commissioner Vinny Grippo to respond to those
10 questions. He's been most involved in those
11 discussions that you're referencing.

12 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: So we had a-

13 -

14 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

15 [interposing] I'm sorry. If you could state your
16 name for the record.

17 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yes, Vincent
18 Grippo, Deputy Commissioner of Management and Budget.
19 I think we did have a very productive meeting with
20 your staff a couple of weeks ago. I actually have
21 with me the letter that your staff sent over in
22 follow up, which is also very helpful to us. My
23 staff has been working on a response to this. The
24 idea would be to provide a written response and then
25 meet with your staff, yourself if you're interested

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2 to give you a couple of options on how we can improve
3 the Budget Function Report. What we hear from you in
4 this is looking at the Budget Function Report there
5 are a number of issues. One is we've created some
6 new units or new divisions that you've heard us
7 testify about at the City Council. So, we're in
8 agreement that we'll look to modify that report so it
9 reflects some of those new units. That will make--
10 be a little more helpful in terms of understanding,
11 in terms of our administrative staff where those
12 people are. The other thing you called out
13 specifically is the overtime issue. The overtime
14 issue is one that is more challenging, but some of
15 the suggestions in this letter we think we can
16 address. Specifically, we look at things like
17 civilian overtime, and we don't currently break out
18 traffic enforcement and school safety and
19 administrative civilian overtime. That's something
20 we can do. We can also look at taking that lump
21 overtime that--that you--the first--

22 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

23 [interposing] That's the currently the Chief of the
24 Department?
25

1

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DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Exactly.

3

And we can look at breaking that out a little bit

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better. We've expressed to the staff some of the

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challenges on why it's difficult to get that in a way

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that works perfectly. But we think with some of the

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suggestions here that we can--we can get closer to

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where you want to be. So I think these conversations

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will be productive. And I think engaging your office

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during the summer will lead to a much better and more

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accurate report in time for next year's budget

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hearings.

13

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So while

14

I'm excited to hear that we're moving forward, I wish

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that those conversations would have happened earlier

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so that we can have it for this Executive Budget.

17

Putting this off to another executive budget hearing

18

in FY17 from my perspective is problematic. So, I'm

19

hoping that we can engage, and commit to some things

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now in FY16. So that this all can sit better with me

21

as the chair, but also with the Council for

22

transparency. So, we'd like to engage in some

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conversations as soon as this hearing is over to see

24

how much of that can we do now with the commitment of

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working through the summer for FY17. Yes?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yep.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay. I wanted to talk about--you know, I know that there's a lot in your testimony, Commissioner, about improving kind of the quality of--of this experience for both New Yorkers and the members of your--of the force within the precincts. And something that I've been increasingly mentioning is the renovations of our local precincts. I think any New Yorker working into a precinct depending on the age of that precinct the experience there is-- So, I know that you talk about the Model Precinct Program, but I also wanted to talk about where are we with our budget response and the capital investments that we will have there. You've already identified precincts that have--that need major repair, which is the 5th, the 60th, the 77th and the 10th. While I know that it's--there some of--the one--10 is actually in design but not in the capital. So, it just raises a lot of concern for me that we can design something, but it's not in the Ten-Year Capital Plan. So what is the message that you're sending?

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The message I'm sending is with the limited funds available I think

1
2 you all are well aware that this city has some of the
3 most deplorable police facilities in America. I came
4 out of the City of Los Angeles that has some of the
5 most modern and spent a lot of money to ensure that
6 all their facilities are modern, user-friendly both
7 to the officers that work there as well as the
8 public. To fix up our 248 facilities, but
9 particularly precincts and PSAs, we loved to if we
10 could find those funds. I'd love to do it, and I'd
11 love to have a plan for it. It would probably--that
12 plan would probably extend beyond the lifetimes of
13 our children and grandchildren because the work would
14 be so essential. Our priority in terms of the
15 Capital Budget is to ensure that the essential
16 operations of the department for the whole city, for
17 the whole department are met. And this capital
18 budget request reinforces that approach.

19 The project to replace our property room
20 facilities, which many of them were damaged by Sandy,
21 but others we could go back to the 1800s and find
22 better systems than we currently have. That will go
23 a long way to benefitting the whole city in terms of
24 storage and retrieval of property in a modern way.
25 It will get out of our precinct station houses a lot

1 of the clutter that accumulates there because we
2 don't have facilities. In terms of the
3 infrastructure support for our technology, our
4 technology is very fragile. Many of our systems are
5 ate end of life. Deputy Commissioner Jessie Tisch
6 has done a phenomenal job this year identifying not
7 only the tools that our officers need in the field,
8 Smart Phones, Tablets, body cameras, but also
9 understanding the infrastructure necessary to support
10 that expansion when we're already stretched with what
11 we have. So that capital budget request will benefit
12 the whole city, the whole department and the public
13 as well as the cops.

15 The cleaning issues that we put in there,
16 the increase in the janitorial staff, the idea of
17 concentrating on the bathrooms in our facilities that
18 both the public and our officers use is a first step
19 throughout the city over this several year [sic]
20 period to at least meet that hygienic need in those
21 precincts. Additionally, we have a \$2 million request
22 for a development of prototypes that I've already
23 looked at. Prototypes that would be modular devices
24 similar to a modular home that to many of our
25 precincts we could locate adjacent to a precinct.

1
2 They would provide a modern, clean environment for
3 the public to enter and address concerns in the
4 precinct. So that they're not standing at a front
5 desk. At the front desk where very often we're
6 booking prisoners and officers are coming and going.
7 So we're looking to understand that if we can't
8 replace 100 precincts all in a short time, are there
9 ways we can add a facility to a precinct that would
10 provide a welcoming environment that we could have
11 signage on the outside with messaging.

12 So we are moving in a way that we are
13 trying to find ways to benefit the whole department
14 as well as the public. One other final issue that I
15 would have liked to have seen in the budget this year
16 but understanding the limited funds is the
17 modernization of Rodman's Neck and Floyd Bennett
18 Field. Both structures look like something from the
19 1920s. Why? Because they are from the 1920s.
20 Rodman's Neck was severely damaged during Sandy, and
21 we would like to renovate that to put modern firing
22 ranges that would be acoustically beneficial to the
23 surrounding community. And at Floyd Bennett Field a
24 driving range that would be more conducive to the
25 streets of New York rather than the older abandoned

1
2 airfield. So that's the thrust of where we're going,
3 and I think all of us would love to be in modernized
4 facilities. But the precincts that, you know, we
5 will work one at a time, but right now, my focus is
6 on what can benefit the whole department. What can
7 benefit the whole city, and those are the priorities
8 reflected in the budget.

9 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So this
10 administration has a very robust Ten-Year Capital
11 Plan, one that has an increase that's been
12 unprecedented.

13 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: That's correct.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Can you--
15 have you done an assessment or maybe you can just
16 give me some type of idea of what it would costs for
17 us to renovate all of our precincts?

18 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I'll ask
19 Commissioner Grippo to address that. I'm not aware
20 of a specific study. I think it's usually been
21 prioritized based on certain facilities we know are
22 desperately in need of repair. Vinny, can you speak
23 to that?

24 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yeah, I mean
25 in terms of--I can't say that we could quantify right

1 now for you every--looking at every precinct and
2 looking at the age--the--the amount of work that
3 would need to be done to modernize those facilities
4 would be incredibly extensive. I will just speak to
5 in some respects the change and the shift we've seen
6 from the last administration to this administration
7 were, in fact, again we are prioritizing renovations
8 and modernizations. So one thing I would say is at
9 our peak when we were funded for precinct replacement
10 projects and that was very, very early on in the last
11 administration further into the administration that
12 came--that was here prior, we were doing precinct
13 replacements. They were funded once every two years.
14 So we had the 40 funded last year, and I think we're
15 hopeful that under--assuming the budget will stay
16 where it is, we could continue a trend like that.
17 And as the Commissioner mentioned, the Property Clerk
18 facilities are a huge project for us. Similar in
19 some respects to the Academy. That's a--it's going
20 to require a ton of management and resources to get
21 that project going, and then ultimately those
22 training facilities as well. So if we can get back
23 to a place where we're funding precinct replacement
24 projects every other fiscal year. And combine it
25

1
2 with these more centralized construction projects
3 that are going to deal with the facilities that all
4 of our cops need to go to or the public would need to
5 go to that deal with out back end, then we would be
6 in a much better place.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I

8 understand that. It just seems that that's a formula
9 that is going to put us on track for 80 years of
10 overhaul of our local precincts, and while I
11 understand that we have to be systematic about our
12 approach, we can use the same formula to expect
13 different results. If we--if we're going to talk
14 about actually working on a Ten-Year Capital Plan
15 that has this increase I think it's important that we
16 make an assessment as to how much is it going to cost
17 for us to renovate these precincts. So when the
18 Commissioner states that the precincts are in awful
19 condition, how are we going to fix that. And while I
20 understand and I think it's a great idea that we're
21 cleaning it, you know, at \$2.6 million maybe if I'm--
22 if I'm calculating this quickly it's about \$33,000 to
23 clean precincts what's the process by which we clean
24 precincts now. Or, what happens in our local
25 precincts now?

1
2 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The process right
3 now within our cleaning--well, we have fortunately a
4 dedicated staff of custodians like the woman that I
5 met up with at the 34 this morning facility, very
6 clean, but she's on her own. So what Commissioner
7 Grippo is proposing is a quick system to go in and
8 flash clean with professional cleaners, crews that
9 would come in to each of our facilities, and really
10 do a top to bottom cleaning that's beyond the
11 capability of our, you know, janitorial force. But
12 we also had a budget request that would allow us to
13 have four teams of electricians, carpenters,
14 plumbers, and cleaners that can effectively move
15 throughout the city. And we have a facility that has
16 an issue very quickly move in and deal with that
17 issue. And at the same time have a regular set of
18 cleaning schedule. So, it's a band-aid in some
19 respects, but what we're attempting to do with the
20 resources and contracting issues that we have to get
21 into attempting to at least staff rooms overall
22 cleanliness. And then tools that the offices work
23 with. We have just installed almost 30,000 new
24 computers in our facilities, new fingerprinting
25 systems. So again, the focus is a lot of the tools

1 they work with that would then with the support of
2 the Council in the technology expansion in addressing
3 that, but--

4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

5 [interposing] Commissioner, it's a \$2.6 million band-
6 aid. So, I--what is the budget currently for
7 maintenance? What is your budget? What do you--what
8 do we spend on maintenance right now?

9 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: We have a

10 lump sum in our budget for building maintenance.
11 It's \$15 million per year.

12 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So you

13 need an additional \$2.6 because the \$15 million isn't
14 addressing--

15 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Two

16 different things. So building maintenance, which is
17 a lot of the repairs you're talking about. It's
18 capital repairs--improvements. Things like boilers,
19 HVAC and other repairs of the facility, facade work.
20 That falls under that building maintenance lump sum.
21 In addition to that, what we're talking about here is
22 really an enhancement to our ability to clean the
23 precincts. As the Commissioner stated, we're relying
24 on custodial staff exclusively. Most people who work
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1
2 in buildings have different levels of cleaning. So
3 there's daily custodial services, but in addition to
4 that there are monthly--bi-monthly, quarterly and
5 annual services that come in. This is a first step
6 toward doing that. So we will be outsourcing one
7 annual thorough cleaning of the facility. This is
8 buffing floors, power washing, dealing with glass,
9 cleaning glass, cleaning bathrooms thoroughly. It's
10 something that the custodians are tasked with doing.
11 But, frankly do that day in and day out in a facility
12 that's 24/7 that has the type of traffic and that is
13 overstaffed as many of our facilities are, it's
14 simply not possible for them to keep up. So this
15 annual cleaning gives you an ability to play catch
16 up, and clean that building thoroughly once a year.

17 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: One of the reasons
18 we're so excited about the funds to--it's a huge
19 amount of funds to replace our property room
20 capabilities. If you go into our precincts and you
21 walk around, so much of the clutter in those
22 precincts that make them look in disrepair is, in
23 fact, just that. It's clutter. It's files that
24 should be some place else--

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

[interposing] Because we still have typewriters in our precincts.

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: And typewriters and--because there's no place to ship it to currently. So that one project will over the next couple of years, once it's built, contribute significantly to in a sense getting rid of a lot of the junk that the precinct has to hang onto because of record retention or evidence. By getting it into a modernized facility, that will significantly help us on the cleanliness and just the overall appearance of the station houses.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I've got to believe that we can find a way to make this one-year cleaning less than \$33,000 per precinct at this budget line. But, you know, I want to give the opportunity to my co-chair and I'm got come back in a second round to ask her questions. But I'm going to be following up on the Victims Advocate Initiative, and more on transparency and budget related questions on your Citywide Budget Savings Program, or the lack thereof. But I'm going to have Chair Gibson ask her

1
2 questions. We've been joined by Council Members
3 Espinal and Deutsch.

4 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Thank you very much,
5 Madam Chair and thank you Commissioner, you and your
6 team for your extensive testimony. A lot is going
7 on, and certainly I appreciate all of the work that
8 the Police Department is doing. A lot of engagement,
9 which is very important. So I have always many
10 questions, but let me just start with the overtime.
11 And I know you talked about it and alluded to it, and
12 I guess I really want to understand we are at \$683
13 million of overtime. Also that is uniformed
14 overtime. Earlier this year during the prelim
15 process, we talked about developing and overtime cost
16 control plan of action. So, number one, I want to
17 know do you think overtime is out of control at the
18 Police Department. And number two, are we going to
19 actually develop a plan where we can really reduce
20 the overtime, particularly the uniformed overtime?

21 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I don't believe
22 overtime is out of control. Just the opposite. It
23 is managed very well. The overage this year was
24 almost entirely due to the unforeseen events of the
25 demonstrations, whereby police officers and other

1 related activities that could not have been planned
2 for. But, I'll once again ask Commissioner Grippo to
3 speak to some of the specificity of the--of the
4 overtime and how it is, in fact, controlled by his
5 office.
6

7 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yeah, one of
8 the things when we talk about overtime if you look
9 historically at the overtime categories that are
10 within the department's control, you'll see an
11 extremely consistent level of spending from year to
12 year. Where you see anomalies, as the Commissioner
13 mentioned, are categories where there are unplanned
14 events, which this year we had the demonstrations,
15 and then special programs. In this instance, in this
16 year the Mayor and the City Council funded a number
17 of those special programs for various reasons. If
18 you actually then go into some of those categories
19 that I spoke of where you see consistent overtime,
20 what you actually see is even though we reflect very
21 high numbers of overtime this year, we see arrest
22 overtime is down right now for the year 7%. That
23 reflects a change in policy in this administration
24 that we instituted midway through the fiscal year.
25 So, when you look at the potential for reductions of

1
2 overtime, of arrest overtime over the course of a
3 year, it looks like it will attract closer to a 10%
4 reduction in future years. We're seeing a reduction
5 in investigative overtime. We're seeing a reduction
6 in overtime related to cops attending hearings. So
7 in those categories we're not seeing increased
8 overtime, we're seeing either stable overtime, or as
9 I've said in these three instances, a reduction. If
10 you want to hear more like the overtime controls, I
11 can tell you my office produces bi-weekly reports. I
12 harass [laughs] Chief Gomez routinely and his staff
13 to make sure that those buckets of overtime that are
14 within our discretion that we are, in fact,
15 controlling them. So that they remain within budget.
16 So we can present some of those reports. You can
17 look at them after the hearing, if you'd like.

18 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, I would
19 appreciate that because I know the Mayor has been
20 talking about just overall broad agency efficiencies
21 on overtime. So I certainly would appreciate you
22 sharing any information that you have. And certainly
23 future conversations as well. I know there are
24 dedicated events that we know every year occur, and
25 obviously if there's something that is not planned,

1 you know, we have to deal with that and address it.
2
3 But I do think overall we really, really need to
4 prioritize and look at uniformed overtime in a better
5 way that's more manageable and controlled. Correct?
6 Right? Okay. The other thing I wanted to raise is
7 school crossing guards are very, very important to
8 me, a huge part of public safety. And several things
9 about school crossing guards. They're capped at 25
10 hours per week. Many of them are making about \$11,
11 \$11.50 an hour. During the summer months when
12 they're not working assigned to summer programs and
13 summer school, many of them are on unemployment.
14 They have to pay for their own benefits. So a number
15 of things we're looking at. We need more school
16 crossing guards. We have about 2,200 right now. We
17 have a breakdown per command of where they are.
18 Overall, I know there are about 110, 120 vacancies.
19 So we're looking at better recruitment efforts, but
20 in order for us to recruit more school crossing
21 guards, we have to make it a position that's more
22 attractive in terms of the hourly rate, annualizing
23 the benefits, relooking at the hours that are capped.
24 Making sure that we can provide more opportunity
25 during summer hours, and also looking at the factors

1
2 that we identify in where school crossing guards are
3 assigned throughout the city. So I just wanted to
4 know your thoughts because in February when we
5 talked, I didn't see that there was an agreement that
6 you thought that we needed to raise the headcount for
7 school crossing guards. So now, several months
8 later, I'd like to know is there a position on
9 raising the headcount for school crossing guards and
10 dealing with some of the other nuances?

11 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I'd like to begin
12 by discussing the staffing numbers. First of all,
13 we're in better shape than we were in March the last
14 time--

15 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --we were at this
17 budget hearing. Since that time, we've hired 64 new
18 crossing guards, school crossing guards. We still
19 have 108 vacancies, and I'm not going to go borough
20 by borough.

21 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: So, 108?

22 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: 108 vacancies a we
23 speak today. As I've said, we've hired 64. 35 on
24 March 20th, and another 29 on April the 20th, and
25 later this month, May the 29th, we're set to hire an

1
2 additional 25. So we are making headway in the--in
3 the vacancies. We've had three processing dates
4 since our last meeting, one in March, one in April
5 and one in May, and 326 candidates attended these--
6 these sessions. Recruitment efforts are there. Last
7 July the recruitment section MIT set up an online
8 application form. Since last July, 2,700 candidates
9 have--have applied. We also--the School Safety
10 Division helps us out. They put posters, they give
11 flyers at meeting, the schools. The local commanders
12 at all of their meetings, they--they promote this--
13 this program. How do we deploy it? It's a
14 combination. Is it a primary school? Is it an
15 intermediate school? What's the population of the
16 school? What is the traffic density? Have there
17 been recent accidents at that location?

18 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Do you work with DOE
19 and DOT to follow up--

20 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [interposing]
21 Absolutely

22 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: --with them on that?

23 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Absolutely. That
24 is done at the precinct and borough level. There's
25 constant communication amongst the--amongst the three

1
2 and we make adjustments as--as needed. For example
3 if there's a new--a new school, we identify new needs
4 and we certainly place the new--new employees at that
5 location. Now, as for employment in the summer, last
6 summer 1,350 crossing guards volunteered to work and
7 we--we gave them assignments within their resident
8 precincts working in either summer schools, lunch
9 programs, play streets, and you city school--city
10 pools that were opened in the--in the summer. And as
11 you stated, in the summer if--if they're not working
12 in the summer they do have to pay to cover for their--
13 -for the insurance, but that's--

14 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing]

15 Right.

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --a contractual
17 issue, an employment issue. Okay, so we'll keep
18 talking about that. I don't want to keep talking
19 about school crossing guards, but I do want to say
20 that with Universal Pre-K expansion at Vision Zero
21 it's really important that we look at school crossing
22 guards in a different way. And we also look at how
23 we can to me better improve the recruitment efforts.
24 So I certainly want to keep talking about that. So I
25 thank you for that. We had talked about a patrol

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2 allocation plan in terms of ensuring that every
3 command had what we thought would be a sufficient
4 amount of police officers. Understanding that
5 citywide overall crime is down, but in certain
6 commands we've seen an uptick in shootings and
7 homicides.

8 So, determining how officers are shifted
9 from one command to another brings us back to the,
10 you know, the very complicated conversation around
11 raising the headcount of the NYPD. Understanding
12 that many officers are retiring through attrition and
13 we're not graduating as many classes out of the
14 Academy. So, the one thing I wanted to mention,
15 Commissioner, you talked about the Critical Response
16 Unit, and as I understand from earlier conversations,
17 the borough task force officers it will be assigned
18 to dealing with demonstrations and high level events
19 and other matters. But, what does that mean for the
20 local precincts? Is that going to be an effect on
21 them? So overall, I bring us back to the
22 conversation of raising the headcount to not only
23 reduce overtime, but also community policing and some
24 of the work we're trying to do in engagement,
25 consistency, I bring us back to that conversation.

1 So how does all of this work without raising the
2 headcount?
3

4 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Currently, we have
5 a number of proposals we're reviewing at some of
6 these--the fellow taskforces, if you will, to be
7 accomplished significantly with the existing
8 resources we have. The CCRB--the unit responsibility
9 can also be accomplished, a significant portion of
10 it, with the resources that we currently have if we
11 decide to go forward with that initiative. It is
12 really up to CCRB whether they come out of the
13 precincts everyday, or we expect to recognize that
14 they're coming out of the precincts anyway and assign
15 them to a central unit. So this is all part of the
16 constant realignment that goes on in any police
17 department and in particular ones as large as ours
18 where we are moving resources to where the issues are
19 that we need to address. In anticipation to the
20 increased concern about terrorism, we have been
21 projecting, beefing up that entity, and similarly
22 with the demonstrations that we had last year to be
23 prepared to deal with them. So we have designed
24 basically is a multi-level response capability
25 starting with terrorism, active shooter with our

1
2 Emergency Service Unit heavily and highly trained
3 that would now be backed up by these two other
4 entities that would also be equipped to back them up.
5 So it's intended to address the realities of the
6 changing issues we're dealing with whether it's
7 terrorism or street demonstrations. Also these
8 officers can be used to help out the precincts when
9 these spikes if we have an issue that we can assign
10 additional resources from these entities to the
11 precincts and we have done that since the beginning
12 of time.

13 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: How many officers
14 are we talking about in the teak force, officers that
15 we have now? What's the headcount?

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The task force is
17 approximately as protected staffing about 600, and
18 the CCRB units would be anywhere from 350 to 450
19 depending on how we finally configure it.

20 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, and last year
21 we were very successful in civilianizing 200
22 positions, which I'm very proud of and I understand
23 those officers are in the Housing Bureau now. Are we
24 looking at civilianization this year for providing
25 the administrative positions and shifting those

1
2 officers to do patrol? Is that a part of our
3 conversation this year?

4 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Vinny, if you
5 would like to speak to that.

6 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yes, we are,
7 in fact, as we look at the staffing numbers and
8 model, we are considering civilianization. As you
9 correctly mentioned, we successfully implemented a
10 200-person civilianization this year, which I would
11 say just looking historically has not always been the
12 case. So, the implementation of this was very
13 successful. We think it does bear looking at for
14 next year. The number of positions I think the
15 report that the Council gets reflects that there are
16 actually probably another 600 positions. But,
17 frankly in terms of what we could civilianize within
18 a given year, as we've said before, we--we couldn't
19 actually do that larger number in one fiscal year.
20 So we're looking at what could potentially be done.

21 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, I appreciate
22 that. I definitely want us to keep talking about
23 that civilianization. It's very important, and
24 whatever number we get to as long as we recognize
25 it's an important factor in increasing patrols

1 strength and I appreciate that. Thank you and I'll
2 get you back on the next round. Thanks, Madam Chair.

3
4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
5 you, Chair Gibson. Just for--Commissioner, what is
6 the average headcount in our precincts currently?
7 The average headcount in our precincts?

8 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: It's probably not--
9 -there's not an average. Each precinct is different.
10 Chief Gomez to allocations based on a number of
11 different factors, but that--that headcount varies
12 from precinct to precinct.

13 CHIEF GOMEZ: As the Commissioner said,
14 it does--does vary, but overall in the Patrol
15 Services Bureau there are 18,500 uniformed members.
16 That includes the--the supervisors. The Bronx has
17 the most assigned with 3,200 and then it drops off
18 from there, but it's 18,500 uniformed members in
19 Patrol Services. That's the precincts as well as the
20 Special Operations Division.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay, and
22 when you--we've--obviously, this Council has a--we've
23 been very much focused on being able to reinforce the
24 department by the thousand officers that we're
25 calling for. If we were able to fund these thousand

1
2 officers, Commissioner, would you be able to use
3 them, and where do you see that you would be able to
4 allocate them?

5 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I won't speak to
6 that, but we would have to--if resources were
7 provided, we would then take a look at where we would
8 want to assign them. As you know, we'll be going
9 into discussions with the Mayor's Office relative to
10 headcount. So whatever the final decision is that
11 we'll deal with how they're allocated if a decision
12 is made to increase the headcount.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And you
14 had mentioned prior that over 400 officers you would
15 like to see put into your--the MT, the
16 counterterrorism.

17 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: That's correct,
18 and I've already indicated that we can staff that
19 with existing resources, if needed.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: If
21 needed. Okay, and I'm going to follow up with that
22 line of questioning on our second round. But, we
23 have about 13 members in the queue to ask you
24 questions. We will hear from Council Member Vacca
25 followed by Council Member Rodriguez. I just wanted

1
2 to remind my colleagues that we have strict five-
3 minute clock so that we can give everyone an
4 opportunity to ask their questions. Thank you.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you, Chair
6 Ferreras. Commissioner, thank you for all you do.
7 Commissioner, I wanted to speak about the firearms
8 and tactic training range, Rodman's Neck. It is 54
9 acres. It is essential to the operation of the New
10 York City Police Department. It is falling apart. I
11 had a meeting with Deputy Commissioner Grippo in
12 April. He stated to me that this was the highest
13 priority of the Police Department. \$144 million was
14 needed to rehab this facility. It is one of the
15 world's largest police training and firearm tactics
16 facilities in the nation. It is in a state of total
17 deterioration. It was used as an emergency base of
18 operations during the 9/11 World Trade Center Attack.
19 We have lead abatement issues in the ground. We have
20 noise issues. We have buildings falling down,
21 lecture halls and classrooms. We have Sandy damage
22 that's unbelievable. So thinking in April that it
23 was \$144 million and that this was the highest
24 priority of the Police Department, I thought that
25 when I saw the budget, I would see a big chunk of

1
2 that money there. I can see the budget, but I only
3 see \$160,000 for design. Now, when the city of New
4 York designs a capital budget item, a minimum of 10
5 to 15% of that capital requirement of expenditure
6 must go toward design. This \$160,000 in design first
7 of all is paltry. Construction money is not there at
8 all. Considering that this was the first priority of
9 the New York City Police Department, I kind of think
10 that this facility was left to tomorrow or days
11 beyond tomorrow. And I'd like to know when we're not
12 only going to not only bring this into--facility into
13 the 21st Century, but when are we going to make it
14 safe? When are we going to do the right thing by
15 police officers that use this facility everyday?

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Clarification on
17 top priority. It is now the top priority because are
18 addressing hopefully with this budget the capital
19 needs for the--for the property room as well as the
20 technology infrastructure, which is the lifeline that
21 keeps all of our offices in communications with all
22 of the different systems that we have. So it does
23 remain a top priority now that the others appear to
24 be addressed. The figure is much higher than the
25 \$160,000 you're talking about for the design. The

1
2 idea as you and I discussed on the phone the other
3 day that you and your staff have discussed with
4 Commissioner Grippo is that we will seek to design
5 the facility. We've been looking at it quite closely
6 for the year or so I've been here. And with that
7 design the go forward with the capital budget request
8 in the next fiscal year. I can ask Commissioner
9 Grippo to expand on that as far as the actual funds
10 that we are looking for. It does remain a priority.
11 I've already described that prior to your appearance
12 here this morning about the concerns, about the plant
13 at that location as well as at Floyd Bennett Field,
14 our driving range.

15 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yeah, I
16 would just--I would just add I mean we--the estimate
17 of \$144 million is a very rough estimate, and the way
18 that we have set this up is the first step in this
19 project has to be designed. Design--we have a
20 commitment with OMB to do--to get the design done,
21 and the funding from my understanding is in place to
22 get that design work done. Once we finish the
23 design, we'll have a much better sense of the cost.
24 This is the exact path that we took with the Property
25 Clerk facility, which as you see was funded to the

1
2 tune of \$355 million post running it through the same
3 exact process and program that OMB has created. So
4 we are--we are looking at this and--and seeing it as
5 a very positive thing. That, in fact, that design
6 work is funded, that it's in the same program, and
7 our assumption is that we will get the capital money
8 in a future plan.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: You seem to
10 dispute my number of \$160,000 in design. So if my
11 number is incorrect, how much money is there for
12 design and when do you anticipate having this project
13 with a shovel in the ground? What is the--what is
14 the year that you expect to have a shovel in the
15 ground?

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: In terms of the
17 number, I was under the impression we actually--I'll
18 have to check on this, but \$600,000 for design is
19 actually the number that--that I was informed of. As
20 far as shove in the ground, that's obviously
21 dependent on the--the design has to happen first. We
22 are trying to move that along this year. We're
23 hoping we'll be in a position to make a budget
24 request next year for the capital funding, assuming
25 that's put in place. Then there's traditionally

1
2 about a year's worth of procurement that needs to be
3 done, and then ultimately we move into construction.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: So you have no
5 date?

6 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: No.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Because your--your
8 estimates, by the way, are very optimistic about the-

9 -

10 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

11 [interposing] Thank you, Council Member.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Optimistic.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We will
14 have Council Member Rodriguez followed by Council
15 Member Lancman.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you,
17 Chair. Commissioner, first of all, thank you to you
18 and all the men and women in NYPD especially the
19 local inspectors who interact in my community
20 everyday, Inspector Marrillo [sp?], Arambolus [sp?] ,
21 Baker and Russell. They do a great job. They
22 deserve promotions. So I hope you keep that in
23 consideration for the future. I--I think no doubt
24 that all of us in this city the 8 million New Yorkers
25 and the 57 million tourists have to be grateful for--

1
2 on how the NYPD help keep our city safe especially
3 after 9/11. We can agree or disagree on a number of
4 topics, but that's a top priority. I believe that
5 the new changes that you are bringing and your team
6 when it comes to community engagement are very
7 critical. They are very important. So I have a few
8 recommendations and one question. My first
9 recommendation is I hope that the NYPD and your
10 leadership continues supporting the local community
11 engagements. Two months ago in the school that I
12 help funded, there was a great initiative by the
13 Inspector 33 where he play a game with female volley
14 ball team. As a father of two daughters, I have to
15 tell that the female beat the men and women of NYPD
16 in the volley ball games. But the winner was that
17 more than 300 teenagers that were able to interact in
18 the NYPD. Not because they were responding for a
19 shooting or anything incident that happened in 33,
20 but being proactive. So I think that that's what we
21 have to continue seeing in more of the communities.
22 And it will translate the way of how we interact with
23 the communities' NYPD. I also have seen Officer Habo
24 [sp?] put in every year like a great Christmas
25 celebration. Nothing happened, but having some place

1
2 in 138. [sic] He's been doing it because he believes
3 in being proactive in building that relationship. I
4 just hope that this will be the pattern that we will
5 continue seeing across the whole city. Third, when
6 it comes to community engagement, thank you for
7 including 33 and 34 in the new pilot program under
8 the leadership of Chief O'Neal. I have no doubt that
9 it will be a very--a very successful program that we
10 learn. The faith community, the religion community,
11 the business community we are all engaged to make
12 that a great project in the 33 and 34.

13 I have a concern. Before you became the
14 Commissioner, even though Latinos represent 28% of
15 the New York City population we have zero Latino in
16 the anti-fro--in the Anti-Terrorist unit. I believe
17 that a progress should take place under your
18 leadership because I believe that if we are 28% of
19 this population, we should have some level of
20 representation. And I believe in your leadership
21 that we will have a pilot program, and see more
22 Latinos also included at that level as also in the--
23 all the levels in the high rank of the NYPD.

24 My questions about the--the training and
25 retraining that you are doing in the NYPD. Do have

1 all the resources to complete that training and
2 retrain all the men and women in NYPD by June? As we
3 were told when we did a tour of the Academy that it
4 was a deadline that you wanted to complete training.
5 And what is your expectation on how will the training
6 and retraining will bring a new--a different way, a
7 positive way on how the community and the NYPD will
8 interact after that training is over?
9

10 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I'm very excited
11 about the success of the training issues you
12 referenced. The--putting through that training in a
13 very short period of time, 22,000 officers, and all
14 of the department's executive staff is scheduled to
15 go through it some time in the next couple of weeks
16 along with the remainder of the executive chain that
17 had not been through it. And so it will be finished
18 pretty much on time within budget, and Chief
19 Shortell, Commanding Officer of the Academy she leads
20 each and every one of the evaluations from all of the
21 officers who attend. And we have had the vast
22 majority of the officers feel that that three-day
23 training has been beneficial, and they're looking for
24 more. And, our intention is as we go forward to have
25 that a permanent part of how we work with our officer

1
2 each year. So my compliments to First Deputy
3 Commission Ben Tucker, Michael Julian, Commissioner
4 Julian and Chief Shortell that--who put together a
5 phenomenal plan that is attempting to address the
6 issues that are raised by many of you in the Council
7 and by--by the public [bell] that they want police
8 officers who interact with them in a different way.
9 So I think we are--we've begun a major first step.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you

11 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
12 you, Council Member Rodriguez. We'll have Council
13 Member Lancman followed by Council Member Gentile.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Good morning,
15 commissioner. First, let me thank you obviously for
16 all that you do and your department does to keep you
17 safe. I want to particularly thank you, though, for
18 the way that you've engaged the Council on the issue
19 of low-level quality of life offenses. I thought the
20 letter that you sent to the Speaker was very
21 thoughtful, and I'm sure that with your leadership,
22 her leadership and the other stakeholders that we're
23 bringing into that conversation hopefully we're going
24 to end up in a place where we can all agree on--on a
25 better way to make sure that our quality of life is

1 enforced in this city. Which is extremely important
2 to me as a--as a council member. I may be one of
3 those council members call you up over the summer,
4 but that is done in a way that is mindful of our
5 limited resources as a city, the Police Department,
6 the court system, et cetera and the rights of our--of
7 our citizens. I want to thank on--on the way that
8 you've engaged in that--in that conversation.

10 Let me ask about a couple of specific
11 topics. One is the issue of school safety officers
12 in non-public schools. Intro 65 sponsored by Council
13 Member David Greenfield I don't see in the budget
14 where there's any allocation for any additional
15 officers in contemplation of possibly passing or
16 negotiating in the budget a resolution to that. I
17 assume that you have school safety officers in our
18 public schools because they serve a useful purpose.
19 They keep our kids safe inside the building. They
20 keep kids safe from intruders from outside the
21 building. Could you tell us what strategy you have
22 in place to provide the kids in our non-public
23 schools whether it's Jewish, Catholic, Muslim,
24 secular, the same kind of safety and security that
25 our kids in our public schools are getting to the

benefit of having public school safety officers?

Because I don't think you would disagree that those kids deserve every measure of protection whether they go to a public school or non-public school.

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I'm going to ask Chief Jaffe, the chief who is more directly responsible to speak to that issue with specificity in general. We do not provide the same level of services to the private schools as we do the public schools. That's a matter of public policy. If you change that public policy and decide that's the direction you're going to go, well then you have to make a decision about funding those additional resources. But the resources we have now are specifically funded for and focused on public schools. In terms of security at the other school, Chief Jaffe can speak to what we might provide in the way of programs, presentations, et cetera, as well as the protection that will be afforded everybody else in the city through our general patrols. And as part of what Chief O'Neal and Chief Gomez are proposing with the Pilot Precinct Project, one of the things we would seek to do with the free time that would be available to police sector car officers. Part of

1
2 what we are seeking to do with them--and I just
3 recently had a conversation with the school's
4 chancellor--is to have the officers, the patrol
5 officers that have schools in their sectors whether
6 it's private or public to have those officers become
7 acquainted with the schools. And it's kind of like
8 some of the drop-in time would be spent in those
9 facilities. But Chief Joanne Jaffe, as you know,
10 heads up our Community Service Bureau and school
11 safety officers are part of her responsibility.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Well, let me
13 just interrupt. If--if Chief Jaffe--

14 CHIEF JAFFE: [off mic] Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: If Chief Jaffe
16 is going to tell me the work that the school safety
17 officers do in our public schools, that I know. It's
18 terrific work. We want it--that's why we want it in
19 our--in our non-public schools. If you have
20 something that you can add to how we're keeping our
21 non-public school students safe then I'd love to hear
22 that.

23 CHIEF JAFFE: Well, I'd just like to add
24 that with the increase of Pre-K and other variables
25 affecting our schools and the combination of

1
2 different schools in our--in a facility and the
3 increase in facilities, we are looking closely at the
4 number of school safety agents, and the need for
5 additional school safety agents just for the public
6 schools also. So, again we have not policed the
7 private schools in the city in the past, and like
8 this commissioner said, we'd be guided by what the
9 law says.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Okay, I
11 understand. Thank you. Let me ask a question about
12 the--the crossing guards. We still have, what is it
13 180 vacancies?

14 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: [off mic]
15 108.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: 108. Okay, you
17 know, they give a test for a sanitation exam or any
18 other civil service exam, and they get tens of
19 thousands of applicants. Why is it that [bell] we
20 can't fill these positions, and what are we doing to
21 make this job more attractive to people? Not just
22 recruitment. Not letting people--not just letting
23 people know that the job is available, but to make
24 the job more attractive so that people actually want
25 to do it. We've asked this--

3 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

4 [interposing] Council Member Lancman--

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: --at many
6 Council hearings.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: --please
8 wrap up.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: I'd love to--I'd
10 love to get an answer to how we're making progress on
11 making the job more attractive.

12 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: As recently
13 as last month, we raised the starting salary to
14 \$11.50 I believe. As for recruitment efforts, we--as
15 I stated earlier, we established a--a website with an
16 online application, and we promote this at the
17 meetings. The school principals and many of the help
18 us out.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Well, I know you
20 promote it, but the job is what the job is.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

22 [interposing] With all due respect, Council Member
23 Lancman, we have about 10 other members in the queue.
24 If you'd like we can--if we have time we can add you
25 to the second round. If you can just wrap up the
answers for the council member.

1
2 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Sure. As I
3 started earlier, every month we do have employment
4 drives. In the last three months, 300 applicants
5 appeared and we've hired 64 and we're set to hire
6 another 25. Certainly, there is a need for a greater
7 response and possibly more recruitment. That is
8 something that we've been looking at, but I went back
9 historically five years, and there's 4 to 5% vacancy
10 rate that has existed since that time, and possibly
11 beyond--beyond that time. It is--it is a constant
12 struggle just to get to the budgeted amount of school
13 crossing guards.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
16 you. Council Member Gentile followed by Council
17 Member Ignizio. Also, just a reminder, there's a
18 need for a quorum in Land Use next door so anybody
19 who is on the Land Use Committee.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I'll be going
21 over there next. Thank you, Chair. Good morning,
22 Commissioner. We--we've heard a lot about overtime
23 issues this morning. I'm curious with the formation
24 of the strategic response group, does that obviate
25 the need for the consideration of the IBO report on

1
2 changing tours and changing numbers of days that
3 would address the overtime issue?

4 [banging sound]

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: We--so we--
6 we would say looking at the creation of strategic
7 response would afford us opportunities we believe to
8 deal with both events and unplanned event overtime in
9 a slightly different manner. In some instances, we
10 do believe it will, in fact, give us additional
11 officers on straight time for those events. But,
12 again one of the risks of me--of us saying this is
13 next year the nature of unplanned events is, you
14 know, ultimately we could have year in which we have
15 a number of weather related, counterterrorism related
16 or other events in this city. And it may not reflect
17 a decrease. We do believe that the staffing model
18 has improved, which means you will see more
19 opportunities for coverage on straight time. So,
20 yes, consistent with the IBO Report.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: The IBO. So the
22 IBO report is still in play. Okay, great.
23 Commissioner, I just wanted--I wanted to turn to
24 another subject, and that's really the low-level
25 street corner drug dealing that particularly in my

1
2 district I know it's probably elsewhere. But are
3 those low-level hand-to-hand street corner drug
4 dealing situations when--when--my experience has been
5 when--when you try to get the borough narcotics squad
6 involved in those types of situations the response
7 usually is that they can't get involved because they
8 don't have enough resources to deal with those street
9 corner type situations on a low-level. Now, whether
10 it's because it is a low-level or because they don't
11 have the resources is there anywhere in this budget
12 that--that deals with that issue? Because regardless
13 of the borough, the current squad position people are
14 dying of overdoses. We have certainly that problem in
15 my district and I know in other districts, too. So
16 that is an issue. And the response we normally get
17 is that the resources are not there for the narcotics
18 squads to deal with it.

19 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The issues of
20 narcotics in the city is one of great concern, but it
21 is not totally a police responsibility. The deaths
22 due to drug overdose, heroin deaths this year account
23 for about 53% of the overdose deaths. The resolution
24 of that issue is beyond the capability and capacity
25 of the police. We're part of it, but for example

1 heroin we've gone to great lengths to equip all of
2 our personnel with the medication that helps to
3 prevent a heroin overdoses just to see those
4 individual overdose again. So, unless we put funding
5 into treatment programs to deal with the addiction,
6 you cannot arrest your way out of a problem, quite
7 frankly. We've tried that for 30 years, and we will
8 continue to focus, as we are.

10 We've recently--the newspapers were
11 reporting inaccurately the effort that we're making
12 to go after the worst of the worse, the major drug
13 dealers who basically take care of all of the smaller
14 small fries that are out there, and those who have
15 engaged in the violence. But, the issue of ultimate
16 resolution of demand for drugs, it's not a police
17 issue alone. It's something that as you start to
18 question other city agencies what are they doing
19 relative to effective drug treatment? You can just
20 keep locking them up and throwing them in Rikers.
21 You are already familiar with the problems at Rikers.
22 So, we'll do our part with the limited resources we
23 have, but the ultimate resolution to this is actually
24 a multi-agency, multi-city state responsibility.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Great and I
3 agree with you on the multi-agency response, but the
4 drug dealing is still happening on the street
5 corners.

6 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The drug dealing
7 on the street corners, I will remind that back in
8 1994 there were 8,000 open air drug locations in this
9 city. That number has been reduced phenomenally. We
10 go after them in two ways. One with the precinct
11 narcotics units, those that have them as well as the
12 borough entities. So at this juncture the resources
13 we have I believe are adequately distributed to deal
14 with the issues we're dealing with. And as reflected
15 by the much reduced amount of crime in the city, and
16 also the policies that this Council and the Mayor
17 have been advocating to reduce police enforcement
18 activity against a lot of low-level drug dealing, a
19 lot of which involves marijuana. In marijuana we
20 have changed our policies so that we no longer arrest
21 for the possession. We will [bell] arrest certainly
22 for smoking in public, and certainly if we encounter
23 people dealing drugs in either the public environment
24 or in arterial locations.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you. My
3 time is up. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
5 you. Council Member Ignizio followed by Council
6 Member Rosenthal.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you and
8 good morning Commissioner. Good morning to the NYPD
9 members that are here. First, I want to echo the
10 sentiments of my colleagues in thanking the men and
11 women of the NYPD who all of our successful be it
12 economic or whatnot in the city is the foundation of
13 a safe and civil society. So we are grateful for
14 that. Commissioner, I want to talk to you about the
15 attrition rate. Do you see it increasing or people
16 leaving the NYPD earlier or later. Do we see a
17 projected increase in the rate of attrition in NYPD?

18 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I'll ask our Chief
19 of Personnel or possibly First Deputy Commissioner
20 Tucker might be able to respond to that. He's at the
21 table, but in general the attrition rates fluctuate
22 occasionally in aberrant way that for example in the
23 early '90s we were hiring a lot of officers--

24 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [interposing]
25 Sure.

1
2 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --sure in a 20-
3 year cycle but the vast majority retire after 20
4 years. We are just finalizing, if you will, coming
5 out of that aberration of a lot of people retiring.
6 Much the same as after 9/11 we had several years
7 after that a significant spike in people retiring.
8 As far as projecting over the next year, we presented
9 this morning what we project for the next year will
10 be attrition levels, which are approximate what we
11 normally use--lose in the course of a year 1,500 to
12 1,800. Ben anything to add to that or Mike, do you
13 want to.

14 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER JULIAN: [off mic]
15 Yeah, it's how we look at three-- [on mic] Yeah,
16 this is Michael Julian, Deputy Commissioner of
17 Personnel. We look at three groups. We look at the
18 people who retire before 20 years of service, and
19 that's usually around 2% and it's been the same for
20 the last 10 years right around 2%. We look at people
21 who reach the 20. You know they say in police lingo
22 20 and out, and that's around 40%. And the people
23 after--

24 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [interposing]
25 I'm sorry, you say that number is 40%.

1

2

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER JULIAN: 40%--

3

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [interposing]

4

Okay.

5

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER JULIAN: --of the

6

people with--after the 20th year they'll retire,

7

okay. And then beyond 20 years it's about 15%, and

8

it's usually the same. It fluctuates only about 5%

9

every year.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Okay. Thank you

11

very much. Switching topics slightly, as you know

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with the assassination of several police officers,

13

the NYPD is sort of on edge and rightfully so. Is

14

there any additional protective measures that we can

15

provide to the men and women of the NYPD or is there

16

any additional protective measures that you are

17

taking on behalf of the officers to ensure that they

18

are--they're kept safe?

19

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: We already

20

referenced the modernization of the bulletproof vests

21

that the officers carry, and the new vests also have

22

the Camelot plate that is an essential addition to

23

what we had before. Later this year we anticipate

24

distributing new emergency masks. These are the

25

masks that were distributed after 9/11 that allow the

1 personnel to exit a building that's, you know, in a
2 catastrophic state. These new masks will have carbon
3 monoxide deflection capabilities, and we are in the
4 final stages of testing those. Those will be funded
5 with counterterrorism funds. We are also--probably
6 also with counterterrorism funds are going to be
7 equipping all department personnel with trauma kits
8 that they carry on their person. This would allow
9 them to assist in grievous wounds, gunshot wounds,
10 injuries that might occur as a result of auto
11 accidents so that the ability to provide significant
12 enhanced first aid will also be made available.

14 Also, the training that was funded last year and
15 overtime that three days additional retraining as
16 well as training new sills that we anticipate that
17 continuing to go forward. Firearms training which
18 has already resulted in this department having one of
19 the lowest use of firearms records in the country.

20 That certainly continues two days a year. So we are
21 constantly attempting to learn from what went right
22 and went wrong from our own incidents as well as
23 what's going on in the rest of the country.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you very
25 much and finally with regards to the headcount of

1
2 the--of the NYPD, you know, this Council and where we
3 stand, I recognize that that's a negotiation. But
4 should that allocation be presented to you, I know
5 you said you're--you're not sure where you would
6 deploy those. But would--assuming the Council gave
7 you or allocated and they had an agreement with the
8 Mayor and allocated those thousand officers, would
9 the 450 officers you requested for counterterrorism
10 then be utilized first. And then the--the balance be
11 transferred to patrol throughout the city? Is that
12 the estimation?

13 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: As I've indicated,
14 it's the Mayor and the Council come to some
15 resolution on headcount that whatever that headcount
16 then we will adjust our staffing base on that whether
17 it stays as is, or if there are more personnel
18 provided [bell] so that we will be in a position, if
19 authorized, to identify where would we prioritize
20 placing it.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: But the
22 counterterrorism component of that thousand you would
23 desire to--to move that first, correct?

24 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The
25 counterterrorism group, the--the number of

1
2 realignments of the department that we're currently
3 engaged in with our existing resources. And if there
4 are additional resources that might supplement some
5 of those.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [interposing]
7 Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --changes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank--thank
10 you, Commissioner. Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
12 you. Council Member Rosenthal followed by Council
13 Member Miller. We've been joined by Council Member
14 Levine, Mealy and wills.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Commissioner,
16 hi. You and I really haven't worked that much
17 together because you have bigger fish to fry and I
18 just want you to know that I admire the work of you--
19 what you're doing and the work of all your officers.
20 As I've gotten to know the officers on the Upper West
21 Side, I've come to really count on them, and work
22 quite closely with them to deal with the issues,
23 which primarily exist around our NYCHA residences.
24 And I've found that they've stepped in, in a really
25 meaningful way. So I wanted to preface it by

1 thanking you for that. I wanted to ask on page 5 of
2 your testimony you talk about programs that are
3 precision medicine, and you mention a couple of them.
4 Do you know--can you isolate out how much money you--
5 is in the \$6 billion that goes towards those kinds of
6 projects?
7

8 [pause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: It was NYC
10 Cease Fire, the Brownsville Violence Prevention
11 Project, Operation--

12 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [interposing] Oh,
13 oh, basically the initiatives that many of you are
14 engaged in that Cease Fire and some of those. I'm
15 sorry. We couldn't hear you over here.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Oh, okay.

17 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: So, Cease
18 Fire, for example, it's an issue that we--we are
19 currently in the process of expanding. I think the
20 funding, if I'm--if I have this correct it's the
21 ballpark--it's about--it's something south of about a
22 half a million dollars, \$500,000, and we do have
23 funding in the budget to support that. [coughs]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I'm sorry, and
25 so there's only money in the budget for Cease Fire?

1

2

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I think all those-

3

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4

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [interposing]

5

You identified it as Cease Fire.

6

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --all those

7

initiatives that were identified there are funded.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Are funded--

9

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [interposing]

10

Right.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: --and roughly

12

cost about how much money?

13

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yeah, no,

14

it's in the ballpark of about a half a million

15

dollars.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: For all of

17

them.

18

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Yes.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Sorry, I

20

didn't catch that. And do you--I don't know if you

21

can pinpoint how many officers--I guess officers

22

aren't dedicated to it. So you couldn't really say

23

how many FTEs that requires?

24

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: We wouldn't be

25

able to give you that because it's a--it's--

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [interposing]

4 Yep.

5 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --the idea that as
6 these programs--Cease Fire, for example, as that
7 goes forward with a large number of entities within
8 the department as well as the district attorneys'
9 offices--

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [interposing]

11 Yep.

12 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --and the federal
13 government that is involved in that.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I mean what
15 I'm getting at is if we were to expand those programs
16 into other districts, how much money would that
17 require in the budget? Taking this--this more
18 preventative med, you know, medicine, cancer cell
19 targeted approach in other districts, I'm wondering--

20 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [interposing]

21 Expansion of a lot of those programs would use
22 existing resources and from a financial standpoint
23 would not be a lot of money based both on our case,
24 the district attorneys' offices, the judges that are
25 using existing personnel by and large.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Right.

1
2 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The start-up with
3 using some of the consulting services is what some of
4 the costs associated with the program--

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [interposing]
6 Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: --are--are
8 allocated.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I'd be
10 interested in seeing that kind of idea if that's
11 something that's--could be written in a--with some
12 notes. Not necessarily a proposal but just notes
13 about what that would take. The second thing I want
14 to ask you about is school crossing guards. Is there
15 any headcount change between FY15 and FY16? Not--not
16 talking about vacancies just sort of what your FTE
17 number is.

18 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: The--the
19 budgeted amount is still \$2358. I recently met with
20 my borough commanders, and I tasked them with
21 identifying new needs. When we do identify those new
22 needs, we will come back probably to you because we
23 want OMB to provide funding for that.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Right. So
25 just to be clear, when you--a 5 to 10% vacancy rate,

1
2 which is what exists now, you--I think it's like
3 five-

4 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO:

5 [interposing] Five percent.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: --looking at
7 those numbers. It has a meaningful impact. So in my
8 district, for example, there are two vacancies of
9 four positions. No, of six positions. There are two
10 vacancies. We've been asking for a crossing guard at
11 the corner of 77th and Columbus all school year, and
12 never got one, and a kid was hit there. Critically
13 injured not killed a month ago. Still no crossing
14 guard, and it's the end of the school year. It's
15 very hard for me to be able respond adequately to the
16 parents in the two schools there representing over
17 600 students what's happening with [bell] school
18 crossing guards. So, I just want to lend my name to
19 the chorus of people who have said, the \$11.50 isn't
20 enough. You know, I'd like to understand the full
21 cost of annualizing their benefits, and what other
22 measures could be taken to get a full complement--

23 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

24 [interposing] Thank you, Council Member Rosenthal.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: --of FPs.

3

Thank you.

4

5

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you. We'll have Council Member Miller followed by
Council Member Lander.

6

7

8

9

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam
Chair and Co-Chair and good afternoon, Commissioner
to you and your team. Thank you for all the
phenomenal work that you do in keeping our city safe.
That's a shout out to Queens South. A couple of
things. I have three questions, and so I want to
kind of get them out real quick. You spoke about
outsourcing of maintenance, and in doing so, is that
compliant with Local Law 63, which requires a cost
analysis? And have you sat down with the bargaining
units involved?

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DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: So this is--
so this is new funding, and we're going to actually
go through that process of contracting. We are
confident that we are in compliance with Local Law on
this. In fact, the City has one, at least one
requirements contract for this service that other
city agencies are taking advantage of. However, the
Police Department has not traditionally done that.

1
2 The types of activities and things this cleaning
3 requires are not the types of activities our city
4 custodial force can, in fact, do. We don't
5 necessarily have the equipment. I mean some of these
6 actually are not included in what the custodians can
7 do. So we're confident this is in compliance with
8 that local law.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Have you sat down
10 with the bargaining unit involved?

11 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: Not as of
12 yet.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay, thank you.
14 Cyber crimes in particular I want to--we have problem
15 with deed theft. Is there a specific unit or tip
16 desk dedicated to addressing this issue within the
17 department?

18 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: You referenced
19 cyber crime, but what was the particular crime.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Deed theft.
21 Deed--deed theft. Folks are losing their homes and
22 second mortgages are being taken

23 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Oh, boy, so you
24 may want to that with our grand larceny unit. I'm
25

1
2 sorry, I'm not familiar wit the issue that he's
3 talking about.

4 [background comments, pause]

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GRIPPO: I'm not
6 entirely clear what you mean, sir. We do have a
7 grand larceny unit of--

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: [interposing]
9 So, it--it does not necessarily--it's not always done
10 electronically, but there's an illegal transfer of
11 deeds and properties are being sold and second
12 mortgages and so forth. How do you address that?

13 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Sir, if we have
14 a--if we open up a case on that, we take a complaint
15 report and it's investigated by the local detective
16 squad for expertise there. Then go to the district
17 attorney square or the grand larceny squad. We do
18 have cases on them. I can't give you the exact
19 number.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: But it's been
22 going on for quite some time as you well know.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Yeah, it's--it's
24 big in--in obviously Southern Queens, and we think
25 that the resources that have been dedicated to that

1
2 has been insufficient. So we'd like to see some real
3 attention paid.

4 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Very happy to
5 speak with you off mic just to get--just to get up on
6 the your complaints and the number of them.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay, thank you
8 so much because there are a lot of problems that
9 arise from that leases, squatters, all that stuff as
10 well. And my third question is probably bigger.

11 It's on counterterrorism, but in--more specifically
12 on Muslim surveillance. I know that recently one of
13 the more high profile policies were disbanded, but
14 obviously TEIs continue. Could you talk about that?
15 Is it something that you can comment on.

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [off mic] This is
17 Commissioner John Miller who can talk about it.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Absolutely.

19 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: For the
20 record, John Miller Deputy, Intelligence and
21 Counterterrorism. Our TEI--

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I'm sorry, your
23 name is for the record?

24 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: John Miller.
25 Our TEIs are Terrorism, Enterprise and

1
2 Investigations. Actually, the number has declined as
3 we've redefined how to--how to organize them. Most
4 of our terrorism enterprise investigations without
5 getting into too much detail about the targets would
6 be the obvious ones, Al-Qaeda, Hezbollah, Tariki
7 Taliban, the designated foreign terrorist
8 organizations. As far as terms like that obtained in
9 your question, Muslim surveillance programs we don't
10 investigate religions or even religious institutions
11 or particular houses of worship. We investigate
12 individuals within the parameters of the Handschu
13 Guidelines, and we have to make a case that that is
14 enough to begin an investigation within the
15 prescribed Handschu Guidelines. And that has to go
16 before a committee where it's vetted, and never every
17 case gets through. So this is a process we spend a
18 lot of time with the advocacy community going over,
19 and trying to give them a little more transparency
20 into. So that they can see the actual mechanics of
21 it, and we think that's been helpful. [bell]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Respect to my
23 Chair, thank you, and I'd love to speak with you
24 offline about that.

1
2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you
3 Council Member.

4 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER:
5 [interposing] My pleasure

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
8 you, Council Member Miller. We will have Council
9 Member Crowley followed by Council Member Williams.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you, Madam
11 Chairs. Good morning Commissioner and thank you for
12 the work you do. I know you've had a very
13 challenging 17 months, and I feel that you've risen
14 to the occasion during most of the time you've been
15 challenged, which I couldn't imagine a more difficult
16 job in a city during that time. I appreciate the
17 work that all of your officers do to protect us in
18 the city, and I'm--I'm curious to get at a part of
19 your testimony where you mention morale. I want to
20 know how we could work together in the Council to
21 make sure that you improve the morale. When you
22 hosted many of the council members at the Police
23 Academy there was a statistic. I think it said 65%
24 of the officers that feel low morale has a lot to do
25 with superior officers. Is that statistic correct?

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COMMISSIONER BRATTON: That's correct.

In addition to the Citizen's Survey, of 17,000 New Yorkers that we conducted voluntary surveys among our uniformed and civilian personnel, and I think on the order of about 14,000 of our uniformed personnel responded. And in that questionnaire, the specific issue we are raising around the issues of morale. Many of our officers indicated that they were frustrated with some of their supervisors. Some of that might be on a personal specific basis. Some of it might be on a general basis, but morale is a very complicated issue. It's sometimes--

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [interposing]

I'm sorry, Commissioner to cut you off. Just looking at the time there. Would it have to do with the department in general, and that 8,000 of your officers do not have the same type of pension security. If they get injured on the job they do not have the type of benefit that the other officers have?

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Okay, before you cut me off, that was going to be my response, that that is made up of many factors.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [interposing] I

3

just--I know that we only have a month left before

4

Albany ends their session, and we need to send a

5

message to them that we support parity and fairness

6

for all officers. Do you know what's happening with

7

the Mayor's support of this pension fairness?

8

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I do not. No.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: No, but you do

10

support it? You do support equal fairness amongst

11

your ranks?

12

COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I'm very

13

supportive of improving the working conditions of our

14

officers. This issue is one of great concern to our

15

personnel as reflected by their union representatives

16

and something that the leadership of the department

17

also shares.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Good. It's

19

something that the Council also share. Nearly 40

20

members are signed onto a resolution in support. And

21

my next question is about the JRIP Program. Last

22

year in the budget we put a million dollars to help

23

support those services. We were hopeful when we met

24

with your previous Chief of your department Phillip

25

Banks who's no longer the Chief. There was talk

1 that--of expanding the program. At our last budget
2 hearing Chief O'Neal said that they were unsure. You
3 weren't sure about the direction of which the program
4 is going. Do you have an update on what's happening
5 with JRIP?
6

7 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Okay, we'll be
8 happy to provide to your colleagues the same update
9 that we just gave you. Chief Jaffe, if you could
10 provide that update to her colleagues. Thank you.
11 Chief Joanne Jaffe.

12 CHIEF JAFFE: Councilwoman, Carlos Gomez
13 is also prepared to talk about this, Chief of Patrol,
14 but after much discussion in the Police Department we
15 will now be expanding the JRIP Program, and we are
16 right now Chief of Patrol and I looking at the--the
17 next geographical borough to go. There were long in-
18 depth conversations in police headquarters and I
19 think Carlos Gomez would like to add a couple of
20 things--

21 CHIEF GOMEZ: [interposing] Right.

22 CHIEF JAFFE: --related to that.

23 CHIEF GOMEZ: Right. I'm very familiar
24 with the program as I served as Chief for Housing
25 prior to this--this assignment. We've decided to

1
2 expand it to two boroughs. We're certain of one at
3 this point and that is the Borough of Queens. More
4 specifically, the 114 Precinct, which has a lot of
5 robberies, a lot of youth robberies, there's a large
6 housing community there. And JRIP there will not
7 only service the youths in the developments, but also
8 the surrounding community. So we are in the process
9 of identifying the youth, identifying the staff,
10 which will be made of patrol, housing detective.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [interposing]
12 Great. You know, I'm glad that you're expanding the
13 program. I think that the Chair Gibson and myself
14 will look to meet with you to further discuss this
15 expansion. Just yesterday I met with the new
16 commanding officer at the 102. Robberies are up in
17 my district. Many of them are repeat offenders that
18 are juveniles. [bell] So whatever we can do to help
19 keep them out of the system to change their lives
20 around. I looked at your recidivism rates, which are
21 very low for kids who are part of this program. And
22 as my time has just run out I'd just like to end
23 without saying more about JRIP other than we'll meet
24 and work with you to expand that program because
25 we're committed as a Council because we funded that

1
2 last year. Just looking at your overtime numbers,
3 over \$600, nearly \$700 million being spent. If you
4 just took half of that money--

5 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Council
6 Member I really hate to cut you off, but we need to
7 get off this.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: --you--you could
9 hire more than double the amount of or triple the
10 amount of police officers that the Council is looking
11 to hire if we were smarter about how we spend
12 overtime.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Council
14 Member Williams followed by Council Member Deutsch.

15 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [interposing]
16 Madam Chair, if I may. We are pretty smart about how
17 we spend our overtime. We justify how we spend it.
18 If you want to allocate more money, go ahead, but the
19 overtime we use, the leadership of this department
20 spends it appropriately. We are very conscious about
21 how we spend public funds. So we are very smart
22 about how we place.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Just in response
24 to that, with all due respect Commissioner--

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE JOINTLY WITH
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

[interposing] Wait, okay.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Just let me--I
have to answer.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Honestly,
we have a queue.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Just two
seconds.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We have a
queue, Council Member Crowley. We have to let others
speak--

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [interposing]
It's nothing about Commissioner Bratton.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
[interposing] I understand.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Commissioner
Kelly spent a lot on overtime, too, and in the past--

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
[interposing] Council Member Crowley, with all due
respect--

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: --40% of it was
known about parades and other non-essentials within
the department.

1
2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: --there
3 are remaining council members that are on queue. I
4 really would appreciate it--

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Council
7 Member Williams followed by Council Member Deutsch.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you,
9 Chair Ferreras and Chair Gibson. Thank you
10 Commissioner, et al. for the testimony. I really
11 appreciate a lot of things that were said in this
12 testimony. This type of testimony is different than
13 what we got in the past. It acknowledges, not as
14 much as I'm hoping, but at least it acknowledges some
15 of the historic problems that have occurred in these
16 communities. It acknowledges the fact that the
17 police cannot do this alone, and more public safety
18 can be for just police alone. And you also mentioned
19 something about where police are needed the most.
20 And also I think a lot of other agencies are needed
21 the most there as well. So I'm happy that this
22 testimony is slightly different. And, I want to try
23 to figure out on the ground if that's going to--if
24 we're going to see something on the ground that's
25 different. And see if the communities are going to

1
2 respond differently, and if the relationships are
3 going to be different.

4 So I have four questions, and I'm hoping
5 to get to at least two or three. The first--the
6 first one has to do with a thousand officers that I
7 am currently supporting, and I do know that a lot is
8 made of the amount of officers that are here already,
9 about 35,000. I am not sure if--I don't think 34,000
10 makes--if we had 1,000 less, would it make the
11 problem better? I don't think if we have 1,000 more
12 it would make the problem worse. But also, just so
13 people are aware when you look at the per capita, we
14 are not actually the highest. So, we're probably
15 about sixth after D.C., Baltimore, Chicago and
16 Philadelphia in the amount of police officers we have
17 per capita. And actually we probably tied for
18 seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth because it's just
19 significantly insignificant the amount of officers
20 per capita. So I know that when we say we're the
21 largest, it's by number, but no necessarily per
22 capita. And so we're well within the range of
23 everyone else even with these 1,000 officers. But
24 I'm concerned that I couldn't--we couldn't get an
25 answer for where officers would be placed, and so

1 that certainly I'm supporting and ask, which I hope
2 will take away one of the reasons that I heard in the
3 past of why certain things hadn't happened whether it
4 was abuse of stop, question and frisk, whether it was
5 changing and rotating out senior officers on patrols.
6 Or, whether it was certain police that we like to
7 see. Can you give us at least an idea of where you
8 think those officers would go particularly because
9 I'm supporting them, and I'd like to have a better
10 understanding when people ask me questions of where
11 those officers would go.
12

13 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: As I previously
14 referenced, Council Member, that if in the ongoing
15 negotiations and discussions, from this point forward
16 between the Council and the Mayor, if additional
17 resources were to be allocated that we would then at
18 that time knowing that they would make decisions and
19 recommendations as to the allocation. Absent that at
20 this time, however, the Mayor's proposed budget, is
21 what it is, and that's what we are speaking to in
22 terms of how we're structuring the department
23 currently.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Okay, thank
25 you. I just would--I just want to say probably it

1
2 concerns me if I'm supporting some officers and I'm
3 not sure exactly where they're going to go, but I'm
4 hoping they would go--I have mentioned before
5 homicide detectives were not being appropriated
6 properly or within the right percentage of where the
7 homicides were. I don't know if that was fake. So I
8 would just like further discussion on that I guess
9 offline. I'm also hoping that this Council will
10 support officers. I also hope the same amount of
11 money that's spent for officers will be spent on jobs
12 for the young people in the summer and all year
13 round. I'm going to ask the next two questions. The
14 first is the most revolutionary thing I've heard from
15 the Police Department recently was to actually have
16 to do with amnesty. But before that, it had to do
17 with relooking at how officers are engaged in
18 productivity. Going away from just summonses and
19 arrests and other ideas of productivity, which I felt
20 was phenomenal. That can go a long way changing
21 systemic problems, and I haven't heard much about it.
22 So I wanted to know if there was thought gone into
23 that yet. What it looks like? Is there funding
24 requests that are needed to make that happen a little
25 bit more expeditiously? And the last one had to do

1 with the foundation that funds a lot of activity done
2 in the department. Is there a unit of appropriation,
3 or is that somehow accounted for in the budget that
4 are presented to the City Council?
5

6 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: In reference to
7 the issue of trying to find alternative ways to
8 police that don't result in the most extreme arrests
9 for example and summonses for that matter, we have
10 had a number of meeting with the Speaker, the
11 attorney for the department and the Mayor's Office,
12 with Judge Whitman, the district attorneys. And
13 there's agreement on moving forward with the Speaker
14 and Ms. Galzer, the Mayor's representative, to
15 convene working group that will over the weeks and
16 months ahead take everybody's ideas into account.
17 And hopefully come out of it with a system that works
18 because the current one clearly does not. It's a
19 disservice to [bell] citizens of the city. A
20 disservice to police officers in terms of their work
21 often times not being acknowledged. I'm very
22 optimistic about that issue, that resolution going
23 forward, that those meetings going forward and a
24 resolution that we can all be happy with, and we are
25 very committed to that.

1
2 On the issue of the Police Foundation, I
3 think a concern is that the funds they raise are not
4 accounted for in this budget. They are actually I
5 understand a private entity, and have their own
6 disclosures that they make in accordance with a tax
7 status. But they are not reflected in this document
8 at this time.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you,
10 Madam Chair. Just to be clear on my question, and I
11 don't know if we can go on, but I think you were
12 referring to decriminalizing the summons. I was
13 actually wondering if there was changes in how we are
14 engaging people with this type of thing.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
16 [interposing] Council Member Williams, I have to be
17 considerate--

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: That's for you.
19 I'm asking if can just after this thought.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
21 Absolutely.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: And also if we
23 can get information about the funding?

24 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
25 [interposing] We can talk about it after.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank
3 you, Commissioner.

4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Council
5 Member Deutsch followed by Council Member Treyger.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Good afternoon,
7 Police Commissioner. I just want to ask if you could
8 explain the difference between the Federal Terror
9 Alert Status and the New York City's Terror Alert
10 Status?

11 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Let me ask
12 Commissioner Miller to come up and speak to that. Is
13 John still here? Okay.

14 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: The Federal
15 Terror Alter Status is the color codes, which have
16 been static for a long time. New York City goes
17 basically by the Federal Terror Alert Status. The
18 difference with New York City is we are always
19 because of our target profile in some state of higher
20 alert than the rest of the world.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you. So
22 what is currently the color code status for New York
23 City?

24 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: We don't
25 have a separate color code status from the federal

1
2 status. You know, our current environment as the
3 Commissioner described is we're in a very high threat
4 environment because we are New York City. And the--
5 the shape of the threat has shifted with the
6 introduction of ISIS and a mass marketing of--of the
7 call for people to carry out the threat.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you.

9 Police Commissioner, I understand that you feel our
10 city needs to hire additional 450 police officers
11 because of the Police Department's mandate to keep
12 New York City safe from a terrorist attack. Would
13 you say that our city would at even greater risk of
14 terrorist attack if we did not hire those additional
15 officers or at least better protected?

16 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: It is not
17 indicated in referencing the expansion of the
18 counterterrorism capabilities and the number of
19 officers assigned that it is directly tied to their
20 hiring. The current plan is to effectively utilize
21 officers that are sent in from the precincts
22 everyday, almost 700 officers and instead create a
23 unit that would be fully staffed. So that we don't
24 have to draw those officers in from the precincts.
25 That number is between 350 and 450, but it is not--we

1 have not discussed new hires in implementing plan.

2 It's they're basically utilizing the existing
3 resources that they normally pull in from the
4 precincts.
5

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you. I
7 just want to mention that as the Chair of the--on the
8 subcommittee and on public schools, would you agree
9 that by assigning school safety agents to non-public
10 schools are children will be far more safe and secure
11 from a terrorist attack? Being that our current
12 state, and without those uniformed school safety
13 agents our schools are at much higher risk of
14 becoming victims, God forbid, of a terrorist attack?

15 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: The issue
16 involving the private schools, if you will, is going
17 to be a matter of public policy that they're going to
18 have to work out with the state. If you are able to
19 work it out, we will be happy to address it. This
20 city, the whole city it's schools, it's hospitals,
21 it's public attractions, Times Schools. It's always
22 at risk of terrorist attack. So to single out the
23 schools more so than any other potential target,
24 we're not in a position to do that. So again, as you
25 work out with the state what you want to do about the

1
2 public schools and private schools, and assignment of
3 officers, we'd be more than willing to respond if, in
4 fact, public policy sets up a requirement that we
5 police those private schools.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: As our head of
7 public safety and as always advocating for the
8 security of our city, would you support this
9 initiative? We have currently in the City Council
10 Intro 65. So I know that you support many
11 initiatives, all initiatives for the security of our-
12 -of our city. Would you support this initiative?

13 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Are you--are you
14 speaking about the--I'm sorry--are you speaking about
15 the school initiative?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: The school
17 initiative for non-public schools.

18 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: That in terms of
19 the prioritization of assignment of personnel to
20 those schools, and quite frankly I have other
21 priorities if the funding were available.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I'm sorry, I
23 didn't hear.

1
2 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I would have other
3 priorities for how I would assign resources rather
4 than the assignment to private schools.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Okay, thank you
6 very much.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
8 you, Council Member. We will have Council Member
9 Lander followed by Council Member Van Bramer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very
11 much, Madam Chair.

12 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I'm sorry
13 member. Council Member Treyger followed by Council
14 Member Van Bramer.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you, Chair
16 and thank you Commissioner. Thank you for your
17 outstanding service to all the fine members of your
18 department. Just since we have a counterterrorism
19 person here, I'll focus on that first. Historically,
20 there has been--there have been issues even amongst
21 the federal security agencies with communication with
22 one another, the FBI, CIA and we've read reports on
23 that. I'd like for you to comment or someone to
24 comment on are we pleased with the level of
25 communication today with information sharing making

1 sure that you're getting everything that you need,
2 everything you're allowed to share and resources from
3 Homeland Security as well? To make sure that we're
4 getting all that we can from Washington to keep our
5 city safe?
6

7 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: [off mic] John.

8 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: We get in
9 excess of \$168 million from five separate funding
10 streams from DHS. Our lines of communication with
11 them about what we need funding for and how we
12 prioritize over the years have become a fairly smooth
13 process. As well as our relationships with the
14 Congressional committees that have oversight over the
15 Department of Homeland Security and the funding
16 process. So we've been in very good shape there. As
17 far as the intelligence sharing and the information
18 sharing, as you know, we have over 100 detectives
19 assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force with
20 federal agents and local officers from many other
21 departments. And each one of them is a TFO, a Task
22 Force Officer. It means they have something higher
23 than a top secret clearance and access to all the
24 FBI data bases and those of other agencies that are
25 in the task force. So, information sharing in that

1 regard is extremely good. The Intelligence Bureau,
2 which operates outside of that, shares information
3 with a network of other local agencies up and down
4 the Eastern Seaboard as well as the JTTF. So we are
5 probably positioned better and more strongly than any
6 other municipal police agency in the intelligence,
7 information sharing and counterterrorism realm in the
8 country if not the world.

9
10 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: That amount that
11 you mentioned \$130 million you said? What was the
12 amount for Homeland Security?

13 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: I--I--I
14 believe it's \$100--it's--it's in excess of \$168
15 million from five separate funding streams.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Has this been
17 consistent? Is this a cut or is this an increase?

18 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Can you speak to
20 that?

21 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: It's a
22 slight increase.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Okay. Well, I
24 mean obviously there are things that are obviously
25 working because there was an incident where it was

1 reported in the media there was an individual
2 arrested in Southern Brooklyn who had a--one of the
3 reports was that there's a plot to actually damage
4 and inflict harm in Coney Island. And that was some-
5 -some sort of a case involving a possible lone wolf
6 ISIS of some sort. So I just want to make sure that
7 we're getting all that we need from Washington,
8 information and making sure as well with resources as
9 well, and I appreciate that. Commissioner, just on
10 the issue of gun violence and shootings, this is
11 certainly the--and by the way, I want to just tell
12 you that I have been more than pleased with the level
13 of communication and cooperation from my local
14 precinct in Southern Brooklyn, the 60, 61, 62. It's
15 been outstanding. I'm just kind of trying to get
16 into the issue of communication with the district
17 attorneys offices making sure. Because even though
18 shootings could be up, and it's obvious there was a
19 concern, it seems to be the same people doing the
20 shootings all the time. And they could almost
21 predict when incidents might occur at the time of
22 when someone might be released from prison. So, if
23 someone comes out of jail within a week or so or
24 within the same day or two, there's another incident.
25

1 Can you speak to the level of communication and
2 engagement with the district attorneys offices on
3 tracking these cases where it just constantly repeat
4 people doing the same things over and over again?

6 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: That level of
7 communication is constant, as you might expect at a
8 variety of levels ranging from Susan Herman on a lot
9 of victimization issues on collaboration. Dermit
10 Shea who heads up our CompStat process. Chief
11 O'Neal, Chief of the department. Chief Boyce spends
12 a lot of his time with his chiefs of detectives
13 interacting with the district attorneys, all of whom
14 I guess will be here this afternoon, and all of us
15 attempting to focus on the worse of the worst.

16 Because shooting population overall is a relatively
17 small population with a lot of it repetitive. A lot
18 of it increasingly involve parolees who have been,
19 who are not coming back out. And, we--we work very
20 hard to identify those that are engaged, the active
21 shooters and trying to put the away. So that
22 dialogue is constant, but we're happy all the time.
23 The district attorney is happy all the time, though.
24 The judge is happy [bell] all the time, though, but
25 we're constantly try to improve the collaboration.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you,
3 Commissioner. Thank you, Chair.

4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you
5 Council Member Treyger. We'll have Council Member
6 Lander followed by Council Member Van Bramer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very
8 much, Madam Chair and thank you Commissioner and to
9 your team for being here. Thank you Majority Leader.
10 I'm on my first round still. So, first this isn't a
11 question. I just want to associate myself with the--
12 the need for to work out the school crossing guards
13 issues with Chief Chan. Some of that is about, you
14 know, it's a real key Vision Zero goal. Some of that
15 is about more money, but much of that is about
16 filling the vacancies we have, which means addressing
17 job quality issues and aligning that work with DOT on
18 the most sensible intersections. So, we look forward
19 to working with you, and moving that forward in this
20 budget cycle.

21 I'm going to ask some questions about
22 intelligence and counterterrorism. You spoke to the
23 shifts in the threats we face, and how you're
24 shifting the Counterterrorism Division to be
25 responsive. I'm interested in whether the

1 Intelligence Divisions has been redeployed as well.
2
3 The money is the same amount. We had an approach
4 that many of us had concerns about in terms of overly
5 invasive approaches. But I guess I'm hoping given
6 the shifts you spoke to were doing online, or ways
7 that we can respond to sort of ISIS or lone recruit
8 threat. Have we shifted our intelligence strategy to
9 reflect the threat in ways that I think communities
10 might well welcome, but we haven't yet had much data
11 on it.

12 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: We've have
13 actually an extraordinary amount of dialogue with the
14 communities, but we've shifted with the threat. This
15 is a threat, as the Commissioner described in his
16 opening statement that morphs in shifts, you know,
17 with some regularity and almost month by month. To
18 the extent that as I described earlier, ISIS has
19 grown to a mass marketing approach in terms of
20 calling on people for attacks on different online
21 platforms from Twitter to Facebook to You Tube. We
22 have shifted resources to make sure that we monitor
23 that as best we can, and look at who's on the other
24 end of it.

25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: So we have
3 shifted some resources from folks who might be, you
4 know, on the ground, in a mosque or a school to some
5 folks who are analysts and can do the work online to
6 be tracing and tracking contacts with and dialogue
7 with federal agencies. So we can be identifying--
8 have a better chance of identifying who those people
9 are.

10 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILLER: I just want
11 to be crystal clear about this without repeating
12 myself ad nauseam, but we don't hang out at mosques
13 or schools. Investigations under the Handschu
14 Guidelines target individuals based on reasonable
15 suspicion, probable cause or the possibility of a--of
16 a crime being committed to wit, a potential act of
17 terrorism. And those individuals who will follow
18 them through whatever their pattern of life it. But
19 the idea that people are kind of hanging out with
20 their ear to the ground listening in on conversations
21 is simply not true.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Okay. Okay, the-
23 -two questions left, and like I said, so let me say
24 the--at the Community and Collaborative Policy
25 Hearing that we had with Deputy Commission Herman, I

1
2 thought was very productive, we spoke about the need-
3 -about what we're measuring. And I think that while
4 we're attentive to the value of shifts in resource to
5 this more community based and collaborative model
6 that's being piloted, I'm eager to see the Mayor's
7 Management Report, and what you're reporting to us on
8 how we're spending this money or this redeployed time
9 essentially that's not on the--on the clock. What
10 should we expect being reported about it, and
11 particularly in the Mayor's Management Report, which
12 is where from our point of view you tell us how the
13 money is being spent. But, I guess in other ways
14 that go beyond the MMR as well. You know, there were
15 obviously concerns in the prior administration about
16 quotas, and whether that was sort of a measurement,
17 official or unofficial. But, as we're shifting, what
18 are the kinds of measures that we should look for
19 from that new found resource, which is the new found
20 time of those officers. But from our point of view,
21 it's the dollars that we're investing.

22 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: As always the
23 crime numbers. As always, the citizen complaints
24 either with CCRB or through our Internal Affairs. As
25 always what you're hearing from your constituents.

1
2 In addition, that the--that the problem will continue
3 and actually span its polling. And the social media
4 capabilities we have are going to allow our precinct
5 commanders to on a very intimate basis interact
6 through Tulip [bell]and other social media forms on
7 concerns, complaints that they have. And immediately
8 being able to respond to those concerns and
9 complaints, all of which will be documented. So
10 there's any--no shortage of evaluation tools,
11 including also the new Inspector General, the Federal
12 Monitor for the Stop, Question and Frisk issue. In
13 all of these, they're very transparent types of
14 evaluations.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I guess I would
16 just encourage you, Commissioner and Deputy
17 Commissioner to think about the possibility that if
18 we're doing something new that involves--

19 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
20 [interposing] Council Member Lander we have the
21 clock.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: --deployment of
23 resources, we think about some new tools for giving
24 us information on what--on how we should understand
25 what's being taught.

1

2

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

3

[interposing] Council Member Lander, thank you.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you, Madam
Chair. I apologize.

6

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: That's
all right. Majority Leader Van Bramer followed by
Council Member Johnson.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
very much, Madam Chair and Madam Chairs for your
leadership. Commissioner, thank you and to your
senior team thank you. First of all, I just want to
start off with saying thank you, the 108th Precinct
under the Command of Captain Travaglia is doing
incredibly well, and we thank them for their service.
And you just appointed Captain Fortune to the head of
the 114th Precinct. I met with him two days ago, and
look forward to a good working relationship with him.
And Chief Guzman, I believe?

20

CHIEF GOMEZ: Chief Gomez.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Chief Gomez.
All right, I got that information, but Chief Gomez,
first of all I know you're a graduate of Bryant High
School. So, I--I thank your making us proud in
Western Queens. But you mentioned that the 114th

25

1 Precinct and particularly the public housing
2 developments in and around the 114, have been having
3 spikes in crime and I wonder if you could elaborate
4 on that a little bit, and what PSA 9 in particular is
5 doing to stem that.
6

7 CHIEF GOMEZ: Yes, the--the developments
8 there you have Queensbridge. The largest Astoria and
9 Ravenswood and the Woodside Houses. In the 114, a
10 good portion of the gun violence emanates at or near
11 those development as well as a significant portion of
12 the--of the robberies. That is why I mentioned
13 earlier we're looking at--to move JRIP into that--in
14 that community. That is also one of the
15 considerations that Chief O'Neal and I considered
16 when we put Captain Fortune as the community officer
17 at the 114 because he served the last year and a half
18 as the commanding officer of PSA 5, a very busy
19 command, a Housing Bureau command up in--in the
20 Manhattan Office. So, he's going to do great work
21 for you over there.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: So, are you
23 dedicating additional resources to Queensbridge,
24 Ravenswood and the Woodside Houses.
25

1
2 CHIEF GOMEZ: That is done at the patrol-
3 -the patrol borough level. They'll deploy their task
4 force, soon to be SRG. They have a borough crime
5 unit, and I know from reading unusual occurrence
6 repots, I believe we've been in the--in the 114.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I refer to
8 continuing that discussion with Captain Fortune and
9 PSA 9, and then for Commissioner Bratton, I just had
10 a bigger question. With--with stop and frisk having
11 changed so much so quickly, and--and then with the
12 discussion of the possible reclassifying of quality
13 of life crimes, I'm wondering how you feel and how--
14 how you feel police-community relations have changed
15 since things changed so dramatically so quickly.
16 And, do you think things are getting better, worse,
17 the same? Because you're on the ground. You're
18 leading this department. Where are you with that?

19 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I think things are
20 getting much better, quite frankly. If you look at
21 it objectively, we referenced the complaints made to
22 CCRB and CCRB has been very public in its engagement
23 of the public going out to the various communities to
24 hold its meetings. The fact that we now have an
25 Inspector-General that's beginning to issue reports,

1 that we have a Federal Monitor that's actually
2 engaged. So a lot of the concerns that were voiced
3 about funding the public and the elected officials
4 are being met. So on an objective level I think
5 we're doing well. On the subject of that of level,
6 clearly we are trying to find many additional ways to
7 interact with the public. And pushing it down from
8 the satisfaction that you've all expressed about your
9 precincts commanders down to the local sector car
10 level. So the pilot programs that are going on in
11 33, 34 and the two Queens Precincts, are indicative
12 that continuing effort to push it down beyond the
13 precinct commander to the cop in the field that's
14 actually out there at midnight, 3 o'clock in the
15 morning. And based on what I just saw this morning
16 at the 34, I'm very encouraged about the officers
17 embracing the new initiative. More time to spend in
18 their sectors, the technology they're getting. I
19 think there's a common ground, a common platform that
20 we are going to be able to achieve in the city.
21 Actually, I think will serve as a national model,
22 being quite frank. That a lot of what's being
23 recommended around the country we're already doing
24 here. And you've been activating--advocating a lot
25

1 of it, and we're working closely with some of you.
2
3 Where we are is not where we want to be, but I think
4 we've come [bell] very far in a relatively short
5 period of time.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
7 very much, and Chief Gomez, my apologies.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We have
9 Council Member Johnson followed by Council Member
10 Greenfield.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Good to see you,
12 Commissioner. Thanks for being here today. I had a
13 few questions related to Naloxone, which I know the
14 Attorney-General last year made an announcement with
15 you on distribution kits. He dedicated \$5 million.
16 I know that the city put in money as well, and we've
17 actually seen officers save lives of people when they
18 found individuals who have overdosed especially on
19 Staten Island where there's been an acute outbreak or
20 heroin overdoses. And we saw the big news from a
21 couple of days ago of all the heroin seized in the
22 Bronx, which I'm sure is going to save many lives
23 since it's not going to make it to the street. My
24 question is related to Naloxone is how many officers,
25 if you know, have received training from the

1
2 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on how to
3 administer the drug. And which precincts have been
4 trained to use it? I know we're starting on Staten
5 Island supposed to move citywide. And then lastly
6 has the department assessed the need in the out years
7 to continue this training? Because we just saw
8 reports in the last six months that costs across the
9 country for the drug were doubling, which was, you
10 know, making it a lot more expensive for cities to
11 get a hold of it and use it in the way that it's
12 needed.

13 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Okay, and I'll ask
14 either Chief Gomez or possibly Chief Shortell from
15 the Academy as to the status of the citywide
16 implementation of the program that was piloted on
17 Staten Island so successfully. But, as I referenced
18 earlier, and I don't think you were in the room, that
19 what we do here is--is a stopgap I mean quite
20 frankly. We are experiencing people who have OD'd
21 and then brought back who a short time later or
22 OD'ing again. So the resolution of the issue is not
23 going to be just continuing to equip officers and
24 firefighters with this life saving device. But
25 rather, effective treatment programs to once we save

1
2 their life get them engaged in trying to save their
3 own lives. But Chief Shortell, if you could update
4 on where we are with the initial.

5 ASSISTANT CHIEF SHORTELL: Assistant
6 Chief, Theresa Shortell. So far we have 15,213
7 members of the service that have been trained. We
8 have utilized successfully 41 times to save people's
9 lives.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Wow.

11 ASSISTANT CHIEF SHORTELL: Yeah, very
12 good. We're actually continuing this. We are
13 training people so they can go out to the various
14 precincts and enlarge that 15,000 number by doing
15 training--the trainer, and we will continue in this
16 program.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: So, those 15,000
18 officers that have been trained, were they trained by
19 DOHMH staff or did other officers then train other
20 officers after the first set of folks were trained?

21 ASSISTANT CHIEF SHORTELL: A combination.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: A combination.,
23 and how many precincts have the drug now to be used?

24 ASSISTANT CHIEF SHORTELL: I'm sorry, I
25 don't have a breakdown for each precinct.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, it would
3 be great to--to know if it's in all five boroughs. I
4 know it started off in Staten Island.

5 ASSISTANT CHIEF SHORTELL: I'm sorry, it
6 is in all five boroughs.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: It's in all five
8 boroughs. Okay. Great, thank you very much.

9 ASSISTANT CHIEF SHORTELL: You're
10 welcome.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Commissioner, I
12 just wanted to ask a question. I know there was
13 money that was put into the Capital Budget related to
14 I think one or two precincts getting repairs or
15 renovations, which is great. I can just tell you
16 that from the precincts, and I have seven of them in
17 my district, the 6th, the 10th the 13th, Midtown
18 North, Midtown South, the 20th and 1st that many of
19 the precincts need a lot of work and the 10th
20 Precinct in the heart of Chelsea where a lot of
21 people walk in off the street to interact with the
22 officers it is really run down. And it's not the
23 most welcoming place for residents, New Yorkers that
24 are coming in to interact with the NYPD. And it's
25 probably not the best place for the officers as well.

1 I mean they've told me this place is a--is a
2 disaster. I think it's from the 1950s, the building
3 and it just doesn't look great. I wasn't sure if
4 there was a plan to besides these two or three
5 precincts that were initially identified to start to
6 assess the particular priority list of other
7 precincts across the city that need capital upgrades?
8

9 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: You weren't in the
10 room, sir, but we've already spent extensive time on
11 discussing departments and issues in that area. And
12 a number of your colleagues including the Chair have
13 spoken extensively on this issue that there is no
14 secret that facilities are in tough shape. And we
15 have a number of initiatives attempting to address
16 short-term as well as longer term, those issues. Some
17 of that is explained in my presentation materials
18 that has been given to you. And we'd be more than
19 happy to talk offline in more detail with what's
20 already been discussed here at great length this
21 morning earlier in the day.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you very
23 much, and I just want to say that I'm really grateful
24 for my commanding officers all over the district.
25 They [bell] great to work with, and the constituents

1
2 who work with them are deeply appreciative of their
3 service. So thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We've
6 been joined by Council Member Levin. We will now
7 hear from Council Member Greenfield.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you,
9 Madam Chair and thank you Commissioner. I--I do want
10 to point to the point that you make in your testimony
11 I think it certainly is incredibly impressive that
12 you have been able to make the city safer and fairer.
13 I think there were naysayers on both sides. People
14 who said we can't have it fair, and we can't have it
15 safer, and you've gotten it done. So, so far so
16 good, and thank you for your leadership. I would
17 also add that I am very fortunate. I have four
18 outstanding commanding officers. I want to give them
19 shout outs. I know they watch this. I'm not sure if
20 they have to, but they watch these hearings. And so,
21 Captain Kenneth Quick of the 66; Deputy Inspector
22 Richard DiBlasio of the 70; Deputy Inspector Carlos
23 Valdez of the 61; and Captain William Taylor of the
24 62. They're all doing outstanding work and we're
25 grateful for that.

1
2 I want to focus on one particular area
3 that's very dear and dear to my heart, and it's a
4 conversation that we've--we've had before, and it's
5 something that we have a lot of support for here in
6 the City Council. We have 46 out of 51 members of
7 the Council, the Public Advocate, several borough
8 presidents. Many other public officials are
9 supporting our legislation that would provide school
10 safety agents for non-public--non-public schools.
11 Currently, the city of New York does many safety
12 measures for the non-public schools. We provide
13 transportation, free door-to-door busing. When you
14 get to the school--the NYPD thank you very much--you
15 provide crossing guards so that you can cross streets
16 so you can be safe. When you're in the school, we
17 actually provide nurses so that if you get sick that
18 your child can actually be taken care of and be
19 healthy. But there is a very obvious gap where every
20 public school currently has school safety agents, but
21 no non-public schools have school safety agents. And
22 many parents are concerned not just for as Chaim
23 Deutsch, my senior colleague mentioned, but also just
24 about basic public safety issues. The concern of
25 who's coming into the building, and their fights and

1
2 concerns and all the wonderful work that the school
3 safety agents generally do. That is important work
4 that is not happening in these schools, and quite
5 frankly, I'm embarrassed to say that most non-public
6 schools don't have security because they simply can't
7 afford it. So, I'm curious. Do you share the
8 concern of these quarter of a million children and
9 their parents. Is this something that concerns you
10 as well as the Police Commissioner?

11 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: I've already
12 indicated, sir, you were not in the room when we
13 discussed this earlier with a number of your
14 colleagues that it's a matter of public policy. We
15 have indicated quite clearly that the city leadership
16 is supportive of that. It's quite obvious that the
17 state leadership does not share--some of the state
18 leadership does not share that view. Whatever you're
19 able to reconcile with the state on this issue, we'll
20 be happy to work with whatever resources you provide
21 to us. We don't have those resources. So we don't
22 have the capability to begin to meet the need of
23 private schools. Again, if you're able to resolve
24 this in a public forum with the--with the state and
25

1
2 provide funding, we'd be more than happy to provide
3 additional personnel to that function.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Okay, so
5 that's fair. So just to clarify the point, and I
6 did--I was chairing another hearing. So we--we have
7 to do many things, many hats at once but I did see
8 the--the wonderful report. Shirazi Tweeted that, and
9 so I did see some of that information. I just--just
10 to clarify. So in--from a city perspective, if we
11 were able to provide that funding to--directly to the
12 NYPD, you would be happy to in turn provide that
13 service to the non-public schools?

14 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Certainly, but
15 again that would--we don't have the ability to do
16 that on our own other--other than with appropriate
17 help.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [interposing]
19 And we agree and, in fact, my legislation would
20 provide that funding directly to NYPD. So I
21 certainly appreciated that you would welcome that and
22 I thank you. I want to--I want to just touch on one
23 more issue and that is response times. So as
24 explained to me by my commanding officers, they have
25 to deal with the most serious incidents first. If

1 there's a shooting or a robbery or something like
2 that, that's where their cars are going to go. And
3 then obviously if there's a blocked driveway for a
4 car accident that has a lesser priority and as a
5 result very fast response time on serious crimes.
6 Not as fast on less serious crimes. I'm wondering,
7 as you know, my self and many of my colleagues in the
8 Council we support adding police officers to--under
9 your command. Is that something that would be
10 helpful in terms of the response times as well. So
11 that we have shorter response time for many of those
12 quality of life crimes like loud music or blocking a
13 driveway or car accidents and things like that?

15 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: As I previously
16 indicated, that if, in fact, the Council comes to a
17 resolution with the Mayor on additional resources,
18 we'll determine at that time depending on what is
19 provided where they would go. As it relates to
20 response time, there are a number of other
21 initiatives that we're engaging in that might
22 significantly impact that in a positive way. All of
23 our police vehicles have now been equipped with GPS
24 capabilities. So the ability to on our dispatch
25 screens, supervisory screens and our precinct vendor

1 [sic] screens identifying where [bell] police cars
2 are at any particular time. What units are closest
3 to where a car was coming in, particularly an
4 emergency call that will facilitate significantly
5 assigning vehicles that are close in proximity to a
6 call. Additionally, with the Smart Phone
7 capabilities and Tablets that our offices are being
8 equipped with thanks to the funding by the Council,
9 increasing the officers to have much more information
10 to work with, and determine what calls should be
11 prioritized that they're closest to. Additionally,
12 the pilot program engaging in as far as the sector
13 configuration with offices being able to spend more
14 time in their assigned sectors. We would anticipate
15 there will be quicker response in their assigned
16 sectors to calls that they're aware of that they're
17 in close proximity to. So, we're very conscious of
18 always trying to improve our response time. So with
19 the technologies that we're acquiring, that will be
20 of some assistance to us.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Great and I
23 just wanted to close by thanking you for inviting us
24 to the All-In a few weeks ago in Queens. It was
25 incredibly impressive, and we've never had that level

3 of communication before. So we're very thankful
4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

6 [interposing] Thank you, Council Member Greenfield.

7 Commissioner, your staff has let my staff know, and I

8 want to acknowledge that you did stay a few minutes

9 past your 9:30 time. Everyone has asked questions

10 for the first round. We do have members in the

11 second round, but we will follow up with you on

12 questions. Both the chair and myself also have

13 additional questions. So I would ask if you could

14 get back to us expeditiously--

15 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: --because

17 we will need these for negotiating purposes.

18 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Okay.

19 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And if

20 the members wish to talk to some of your staff

21 afterwards, I would appreciate it if you would let

22 them know to be able to speak to the members.

23 COMMISSIONER BRATTON: Thank you for your

24 courtesy and thank you for your attention.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you very much. We're going to take a ten-minute
break before we call up the district attorneys.

[pause]

[background comments]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We will
now resume the City Council's hearing on the Mayor's
Executive Budget FY16. We just heard from the Police
Department, and now we will hear from Robert Johnson,
the Bronx County District Attorney; Cyrus Vance, the
New York County District Attorney; LeRoy Frazer, the
Chief of Staff for the Kings County District
Attorney; Richard Brown, the Queens County District
Attorney; Daniel Master, the Acting Richmond District
Attorney; and Bridget Brennan, the Special Narcotics
Prosecutor. In the interest of time, I will forego
and opening statement, but before we hear testimony,
I open the mic to my co-chair, Chari Gibson for her
statement.

CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Good afternoon.

Thank you, Madam Chair, and good afternoon to each of
our New York City prosecutors. It's a pleasure to be
here. Thank you for your presence. I just want to
thank you all for the tremendous work you do. Since

1
2 I've been Chair of Public Safety it's been a pleasure
3 working with each of your offices on a number of
4 priorities, and necessary resources and programs to
5 allow you to do your job. But to be very creative in
6 community engagement, which is very important to me.
7 So I want to thank you all for that.

8 At the Preliminary Budget hearings, we
9 reviewed how each of your offices has used the
10 baseline funding that was added in the FY21015
11 Budget, and in this afternoon's discussion, I would
12 like to review in detail the concerns that your
13 offices have presented to us in March. I was
14 disappointed to find that none of the funding
15 concerns were addressed in the FY16 Executive Budget,
16 which totals about \$331.7 million or 5.5% higher than
17 the FY15 Adopted Budget for all of the offices. The
18 increased funding from adoption to FY16's Executive
19 Plan is reflective of technical adjustments such as
20 collective bargaining increases. I'd also like to
21 revisit some of the funding concerns that were
22 outlined and continue to discuss ways that your
23 offices' programs are very reflective of public
24 safety for all New York residents. Again, I thank
25 you for being here. I look forward to your

1 testimony, and look forward to working with you after
2 today's hearing as we prepare for our final budget
3 hearing in the city. So thank you. Again for being
4 here, and with that, Madam Chair, I'll turn it back
5 over to you.
6

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
8 you, Chair. You may begin your testimony in the
9 order that you think it appropriate.

10 ROBERT JOHNSON: Good afternoon, Chair
11 Ferreras, and Chair Gibson. We've made it a
12 tradition to go in seniority order here, and it's
13 been a long time. I've been partners traditionally
14 and worked my way here. [laughter] Chair--as Chair
15 Gibson knows, we in the Bronx are not making a
16 traditional funding request this year. However, we
17 did in the Public Safety hearing speak about some
18 other concerns that one is somewhat political in
19 terms of persuading the courts and the powers that be
20 that the system in general is in need of additional
21 judicial resources. We're finding that is the
22 greatest problem we're encountering. People talk
23 about backlogs in the courts and the like. We feel
24 that the greatest obstacle is the lack of courtrooms
25 and judges, and asking for additional voices with

1
2 respect to that. The second was--it had to do with
3 physical plant and space, which is an obstacle to us
4 in a couple of ways. We've made great strides in
5 reducing our arrest and arraignment time, which has
6 been more problematic in the Bronx than other
7 counties.

8 And part of that was due to the physical
9 plant. We are hoping to be even better when we open
10 up our new complaint room. However, we've had
11 construction delays, and during those delays then the
12 space began to be used as storage. DCAS is now
13 emptying out the storage so we can get back on track
14 with the construction. But there's additional
15 storage throughout the office, materials that have to
16 be removed so that we can have space for personnel.
17 The greatest thing that we're planning to do next
18 year with the--the logis of my colleague in New York
19 County, District Attorney Vance is to begin a crime
20 strategies and case enhancement unit. But even
21 though that's begun and the planning is well along
22 the way, the space issue of where these people are
23 going to be put is an issue. So that--those are our
24 major concerns. I would, however, with a view
25 towards the fact that 2017 may not be as good for us

1
2 as 2016 not knowing what the future holds, I'd just
3 like to briefly have you view us from a different
4 lens.

5 So that you can know really what we do.
6 And last year, the Police Department brought 85,
7 86,000 arrest cases in Bronx County, and we have
8 staff of 400 support and 400 lawyers, approximately
9 each. And our mission is to screen each and every
10 one of those cases. Each and every one of those
11 cases so that we get it right, and that's for the
12 defendants, that's for the complainants. And that
13 means that as we sit here now, the lawyers in the
14 complaint room interviewing police officers,
15 interviewing complainants. They began this morning
16 around 7 o'clock in the morning. They will go on
17 this evening until midnight at least. Perhaps 1:00
18 or 2:00 a.m. in shifts doing that work of screening
19 the cases that come in. Every case that come in--
20 comes in has to be evaluated. Those who survive and
21 don't end up in pleas, we want to re-evaluate at
22 times during their--their pendency, and that--
23 whatever comes in this year will be on top of the
24 already existing backlog case logs, whatever doesn't
25 get disposed of.

1
2 That means that in cases involving
3 complaints and police officer victims, not--not
4 excluding property claims, or at least public
5 property. But in case of property complaints and
6 police officer victims we want their input on how
7 we're handling the case. We wan them to know. So
8 that means assistants are spending a great deal of
9 time with them. It means that they're coming into an
10 office and being greet--being greeted by a support
11 staff that's very, very key to how people view the
12 system. I can envision one of our receptionists, who
13 unfortunately passed away in the last two months, who
14 was absolutely the best at making people feel at
15 ease. And that's part of our mission, making people
16 feel at ease as they're going through a great of
17 strife. The case that go to trial, require us to
18 follow up, to bring witnesses in, and the backlog
19 causes us to lose witnesses, to not--to lose contact
20 witnesses, to have witnesses change their resolve in
21 terms of going forward.

22 We have--we then turn on--turn to our
23 detective investigators who are part of our support
24 staff. They do investigations, but they also help us
25 find an also speak to witnesses in a way that they're

1 willing to come in and do what we need to do to
2 protect the community at all hours of the day and
3 night. Not just when the complaint room is open, but
4 at all hours of the day and night there are assistant
5 DAs, video technicians on call to go to crime scenes,
6 particularly the homicide scenes to take statements
7 from people who wish to make statements, to respond
8 to every police involved shooting. Whether it be a
9 civilian or a police officer who was injured, and
10 begin to put together what needs to be put together
11 to really a key case in those instances. We are
12 charged unlike any of my other colleagues with
13 security in the largest jail or the second largest
14 jail in this country, Rikers Island. It's in the
15 County of the Bronx.

17 Through Rikers Island, we come into
18 contact with hundreds of assault cases during the
19 course of a year. Inmate on inmate, inmate on staff,
20 staff on inmate. Those cases have to be investigated
21 by us. The geography makes it somewhat difficult,
22 but we now have a correction officer in our office
23 who gets us the material we need. Through the
24 funding that you've given us, the baseline funding,
25 we've been able to add staff to particularly deal

1
2 with Rikers Island. Those assault cases include not
3 only physical assaults, but spitting and splashing of
4 body fluids through containers, and all kinds of vile
5 acts. It requires investigations in addition to the
6 prosecution of results. We also had 425 contraband
7 cases last year, and contraband, you know, the--the
8 controlled substances should not be in a--in a
9 correctional institution, a correctional facility.
10 But certainly the objects, the sharp objects and
11 those that can do harm the dangerous instruments are
12 a real serious problem. And we want to make sure
13 that each one of those gets handled in order to
14 protect not only the inmates, but especially the
15 officers who are there working on the very severe
16 conditions.

17 In terms of investigations, detective
18 investigators and our detective squad our NYPD squad
19 are involved monitoring wire taps as we speak. You
20 know, cases where just as Special Narcotics
21 Prosecutor Brennan just finished a major case that
22 we're very grateful. Wire taps are a part of those
23 kinds of cases, and not only to require the
24 investigation to get the authorization, but it
25 requires the personnel to sit and listen and cull out

1 exactly what's pertinent, what's relevant and what
2 takes us farther up the chain. I mentioned the trial
3 witnesses that we need to locate a receptionist. We
4 also have a Crime Victims Assistance Unit, who are
5 social workers, therapists. Last year, they had
6 2,700 new cases in which they dealt with our--with
7 members of our community who have been victimized in
8 one way or another. From those who lost loved ones
9 to homicides, to rape victims, child assault and
10 sexual assault victims and everything in between. We
11 have--also they saw over 40,000, and if you include
12 the follow-up visits from the cases that came in the
13 prior year, they had over 40,000 contacts last year
14 with citizens. Our ADAs are put in positions where
15 they have to be ready for trials. Sometimes multiple
16 cases on the same day because they don't know which
17 case the judge is going to be ready to move. They
18 don't know which case the defense lawyer is going to
19 be ready. So if the court says you be ready on these
20 three cases, they will be ready on three cases. And
21 we're constantly informing the court of what our
22 state of readiness is to flow the management. So
23 that we can synthesize and coordinate a sort of
24
25

1
2 ballet of getting all the right parties into the
3 right courtroom at the same time.

4 Our Community Affairs unit is making
5 contact with the community. We are--their concerns
6 are important to us. The Narcotics Bureau for
7 instance is responding to community concerns all the
8 time in two ways. One is by being in contact with
9 the Narcotics Division of the Police Department, and
10 letting them know where the problem locations we have
11 heard about, if they don't already know. And the
12 second is to communicate to the court because this is
13 not about case files when we're prosecuting cases.
14 This is about people's lives. And even a narcotics
15 sale where there is no readily identifiable victim,
16 of communities being victimized and we want to
17 portray that to the court. So when we have the
18 community's complaint, we can very much carry their
19 words to the judges to be of some persuasion.

20 Community Affairs in addition to that puts people
21 into our precinct councils so we're getting that
22 information at the pre-monthly precinct meetings.

23 The Community Affairs, the last--the last
24 thing for Community Affairs is they also coordinate
25 mentoring and prevention programs in the schools.

1
2 Our Concept Program last year saw 3,600 students, and
3 some of your members have been very, very helpful to
4 us in terms of finding funding to see that. Because
5 prevention is the key way to prevent crime. You
6 know, the prosecution will be done, but the
7 prevention really cuts it off.

8 Finally, I would just say that our
9 commitment is strong, and in particular with the
10 assistant DA I can tell you that every assistant DA
11 who has been hired in the last more than a quarter
12 century has been interviewed by me in the last
13 interview. And they all have law degrees. They're
14 all smart people, but the primary thing that sets the
15 apart in my eyes is whether they're commitment to be
16 able to work with and deal with people. And of the
17 420 some odd assistants that we have right now, 93%
18 of them have been hired by me. They made that
19 commitment to me, and have had it drilled into them
20 by our Training Unit and the directors day in and day
21 out that we are here to serve the public. So we
22 thank you for what you've given us in this budget,
23 and we're looking forward to doing more and to also
24 answering whatever questions you have about all the
25 things we do. Thank you.

[pause]

RICHARD BROWN: Thanks Bob. When I testified before you in March with respect to the Mayor's Preliminary Budget, I said that while significant strides have been made in stabilizing our budgets through the years and restoring the devastating cuts that we saw following 9/11 that much remains to be done. That statement is equally true today as we discuss the Mayor's Executive Budget because nothing has really changed. The Executive Budget pretty much mirrors the Preliminary Budget and provides no additional funding for our offices. Fortunately, however, we've been having extensive discussions with the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, OMB and with you and your staff as well. And I'm hopeful that between now June 30th, which the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget is finalized that the city will respond to our needs. I've provided you today with a memorandum, which focuses upon the shortfalls in both personal services and OTPS budgets for 2016 and beyond. And also addresses our longstanding problems with regard to a available office space for our staff, and the need for additional monies for rental space short term. The memorandum documents a

1
2 personnel service shortage of \$910,000, and an OTPS
3 shortfall of a little over \$1.1 million. We also
4 request \$920,000 appropriation to cover our short-
5 term space needs. And once again, urge the city to
6 make available for conversion to office space the 10-
7 story Queens House of Detention. Which, for all
8 intents and purposes has been empty since 2002, and
9 for which Corrections has long said it has no need.
10 As I've said in the past, it makes a great deal more
11 sense to renovate the Queens House and covert it into
12 office space than for the city to continue to pay out
13 some \$3 million a year for space in a privately owned
14 building. It will allow our people to work daily in
15 the courthouse in a facility immediately adjacent to-
16 -to the court complex. And while it will require an
17 additional one-time investment to convert the
18 building into office space, I believe it's an
19 investment that will be well spent in terms of long-
20 term efficiency and effectiveness for our office's
21 operation. And perhaps most importantly, I have told
22 the city that I am prepared to make available
23 obviously with the approval of the--the Department of
24 Treasury in Washington a substantial amount of
25 federal asset forfeiture funds toward the building's

1 renovation. So hopefully over these next few weeks,
2 as the city's [banging noise] Fiscal 2016 budget is
3 finalized, our budgetary and short-term space needs
4 will be met, and the city will commit to the
5 renovation of the long empty to the Queens House of
6 Detention. So I thank you very much for the
7 opportunity to appear before you again this morning.

8 [pause]

9
10 CYRUS VANCE: Good afternoon, Chairwoman
11 Gibson and Chairwoman Ferreras and members of the
12 committee, I also am thankful for the opportunity to
13 be able to address you today, and also thankful for
14 the support you have shown the district attorney's
15 office and our office historically. I also want to
16 thank my colleagues to my left and right for their
17 great partnership, and particular note today that two
18 of my colleagues to my left were former Manhattan
19 district attorneys, and it's a pleasure to be in
20 their company again today. It's clear that your
21 investment, the city's investment in our offices has
22 fueled this remarkable drop in crime, understanding
23 problems that still exist. But, in Manhattan, I
24 think it is just astounding to know that last year we
25 had 37 homicides, 37 too many, but 37, which is the

1
2 fewest number of homicides in the borough since
3 recordkeeping began in 1937. It was level that was
4 unthinkable even five years ago, and I will tell you
5 that when I talk to police officers about how much
6 progress has been made, it is to them also
7 astounding. It's your support and the support of the
8 city that's really made this possible by your
9 funding.

10 We also are gratified that we can be a
11 partner in funding. Our offices generated \$945
12 million by our work directly to the city of New York
13 in my tenure, and that's over ten times our annual
14 city budget allocation. Those case settlements have
15 also resulted thankfully in an unprecedented level of
16 forfeiture funds that we have used in a variety of
17 ways in addition to the \$945 million to the city to
18 promote criminal justice. We have been proud to
19 commit \$1 million to improve security and enhanced
20 residential safety at 15 NYCHA housing developments
21 throughout the city \$41 million to support the
22 implementation of the Mayor's Behavioral Health Task
23 Force recommendations. And I think we just need to
24 read the papers to understand how important it is
25 that we do a better job dealing with the mentally

1 ill. Because if we do not do a good job dealing with
2 the mentally ill when we have them in our system,
3 they are going to come back and reoffend and reoffend
4 in a serious way.

5
6 \$90 million to the New York City Police
7 Department to equip their officers with mobile
8 devices including Tablet computers for every patrol
9 car and hand-held devices for every cop. And \$35
10 million to help reduce not just New York City, not
11 just New York State's, but the rape kit backlog
12 throughout the country, which frankly is an
13 embarrassment. And the nation needs to own that
14 responsibility and eliminate these--the situation of
15 a rape kit backlog that exists in America.

16 Those are just a few examples of how
17 these forfeiture funds are an opportunity to reform
18 our justice system, and promote public safety and
19 prevent crime. While these forfeiture dollars we are
20 very lucky and gratified to have them, they
21 significantly represent at one-time infusion of
22 resources. And we are limited by statutes and
23 guidelines in how we can use those funds.
24 Specifically, they may be used for equipment and
25 programs, but not for baseline staffing or salaries.

1
2 And with over 95% of my office's annual operating
3 budgeted devoted to personnel costs, our office
4 frankly needs additional tax levy funding so that it
5 can take on challenges of a 21st Century law
6 enforcement agency.

7 Now, in March, our office submitted a
8 budget request letter to the Mayor's Office of
9 Management and Budget, and today I'd just like to
10 highlight two important programs for which we
11 request--requested support. Our Conviction Integrity
12 Program and our Court Diversion. Neither of these
13 funds--neither of these can be funded with bank
14 settlement dollars. Our office seeks \$125,000 in
15 baseline funding to add one senior assistant district
16 attorney to work in our Conviction Integrity Program.
17 That program has been instrumental I believe to--to
18 our role as the District Attorney's Office in
19 Manhattan. We created our--our Conviction Integrity
20 Unit in 20120. Initially modeled on what the Dallas
21 DA had done and been so--so upfront on. But the
22 scope of our unit is unique in its purpose. We don't
23 just seek to address claims of actual innocence that
24 come after conviction. We also equally train and
25 devote resources to making sure that our front-end

1
2 review of cases is as deliberate and as intense as it
3 needs to be to minimize the chance of an error of
4 judgment by our offices or by a police officer.

5 So we have three parts to our program.

6 We have a committee within our office, which is
7 comprised of ten senior members of the district
8 attorney staff. We also have a chief who coordinates
9 the activities of this committee and leads all re-
10 investigations of cases that present a meaningful
11 claim of actual innocence. And we have a Policy
12 Advisory Panel, which is comprised of leading
13 criminal justice experts like Barry Scheck, including
14 leader scholars and former prosecutors who advise us
15 on national best practices and evolving issues in the
16 area of wrongful convictions. We are asking for
17 funding for an additional assistant district attorney
18 assigned to this program who would assist in the
19 assessment increasingly complex wrongful conviction
20 claims. And to help ensure that the office is at the
21 forefront of issues of best practices and
22 prosecutions and investigations. Quite honestly, I
23 can think of few more critical undertakings than
24 supporting the efforts of our office and other
25

1 offices to help prevent innocent men and women from
2 being misjudged and corrected and convicted unfairly.

3
4 The second issued I'd like to speak about
5 is court conversion. We are seeking \$75,000 in
6 baseline funding to add the position of a diversion
7 coordinator within my office. And I think this is
8 very important although it kind of gets in the weeds,
9 but it very much relates to our ability to do our job
10 well. One of our--my goals as prosecutor is to
11 achieve more effective and longer term resolutions to
12 cases. While at the same time lowering recidivism
13 and keeping young men and women out of our criminal
14 justice system. I believe that the judicious use of
15 diversion options is key to this goal. However, and
16 this is the problem, often my assistant district
17 attorneys do not have accurate and sufficient
18 information about diversion programs to make informed
19 recommendations to our judges. And I plan to address
20 this problem in several ways, some things I can do.

21 First, I will provide \$4.4 million of
22 forfeiture funds to the Mayor's Office of Criminal
23 Justice to create a citywide justice provider
24 management system, which is a web based application
25 that will help to collect, analyze and report on

1 outcomes for all city funded diversion programs. It
2 is expected that this system will be available for
3 all criminal justice partners by the end of this
4 year. Second, I intend to create the role of
5 Diversion Coordinator within my office to support my
6 office's commitment to reducing unnecessary
7 incarceration while at the same time enhancing public
8 safety. The Diversion Coordinator will serve as a
9 resource for our whole office identifying programs
10 that our assistant DA's could support as diversion
11 options for those defendants deemed eligible. This
12 person also will follow up with defendants who have
13 been diverted from the court system to check on their
14 progress in their community programs. And lastly,
15 the Diversion Coordinator will collect information of
16 the efficacy of the diversion programs. And that
17 information could be used by the city to create new
18 models or expand the capacity of successful programs.
19 This new position, in my opinion, is critical to the
20 --to the success of any expansion of diversion
21 options in Manhattan. And I ask that the City
22 Council support in securing funding for that
23 position.
24
25

1
2 Finally, I'd like to briefly discuss an
3 issue that has been studied numerous times over the
4 past 20 years without resolution, and that is the
5 physical state of the Manhattan Court Complex and the
6 DA--of New York's offices in particular. Our offices
7 currently occupy over 300,000 square feet of space at
8 80 Center Street and 100 Center Street in Downtown
9 Manhattan in space adjoining the Manhattan Court
10 Complex. This district attorney occupied--occupied
11 space is the work site of over 1,400 professionals,
12 and it accommodates approximately 550 visitors each
13 day from law enforcement agencies, victims, witnesses
14 and the general public. This space has never been
15 renovated or modernized in any significant way since
16 these buildings were built.

17 Just by way of example, on a personal
18 note, when I came back to the DA's Office to be the
19 DA in 2010, and I went to visit the Trial Bureau that
20 I worked in when I started out in office in 1982, the
21 carpeting on the floor of my Trial Bureau today was
22 the same carpeting that was there when I was working
23 in the office in 1982. That gives you a sense of--of
24 in a comedic way of how much in need we are of
25 renovating these spaces. But let me just tell you if

1
2 you are an Assistant District Attorney and you bring
3 a victim in whose been charged in--whose been the
4 victim of a sexual assault or a robbery victim or
5 anyone involved in a serious violent crime, the fact
6 of the matter is that those witnesses have to wait in
7 hallways waiting on little benches while defendants
8 are moved past them in handcuffs. The police
9 officers are slumped on the seats sleeping. It's
10 just not appropriate for a 21st Century office to not
11 be designed in a way that is welcoming, that gives a
12 sense of security and quiet to a victim of crime who
13 comes into our office. And we believe you can and
14 the city can help us solve this problem. We've hired
15 an architectural firm to develop a plan for improving
16 our space to create a professional and modern
17 environment. We'll share our findings with you and
18 the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice later this
19 year. But it is clear that a significant funding
20 will be required adequately to renovate our space.
21 And I ask for your support, and I'm happy to provide
22 personal tours of our space so that you can see the
23 necessity for securing the capital funds necessary to
24 improve the physical conditions of our space to a
25 level befitting of a modern prosecutor's office.

1 Thank you so much again for listening to me, and like
2 my colleagues, I'd be happy to answer questions.

3
4 DANIEL MASTER: Chairwoman Gibson and
5 Ferreras and members of the New York City Council
6 Committees on Public Safety and Finance. Good
7 afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to
8 address the Committee on Public Safety and the
9 Committee on Finance regarding the Fiscal Year 2016
10 Executive Budget. Today, I'd like to discuss with
11 you an area that remains a major concern for my
12 office. I would also like to bring to your attention
13 the need for funding for a new initiative and for an
14 unfunded mandate that my office now faces, Drug
15 Treatment Court. I know I sound like Johnny One Note
16 because I've been here several times on the same
17 matter--several years on the same matter. The
18 Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities or TASC,
19 as it's known, is a very successful alternative to an
20 incarceration program that performs required drug
21 tests for defendants, and manages most of the cases
22 for the Staten Island Drug Treatment Court. The TASC
23 program in my borough is once again unfunded
24 beginning July 1st, 2015, and will be in jeopardy of
25 closing.

1
2 In 2014, TASC conducted 3,746 drug tests
3 for the Staten Island Drug Treatment Court.
4 Additionally, 182 defendants referred to Staten
5 Island TASC were screened to determine eligibility
6 for diversion resulting in 167 new defendants being
7 diverted from jail or prison into community based
8 treatment programs. Fifty-six percent of the clients
9 identified an opiate as the primary substance.
10 Staten Island TASC managed on average--an average
11 caseload of 200 participants throughout the year, and
12 with the guidance of TASC management 94 defendants
13 successfully completed the program in 2014. The
14 difference in expenses associated with treatment
15 versus incarceration are well known. Incarcerating a
16 prisoner in a city jail costs \$76,000 a year.
17 Conversely, in-patient programs costs for individuals
18 are \$20,000 and that shrinks even further to \$7,500
19 per year in outpatient program. Perhaps even more
20 significant is the city does not bear any treatment
21 costs since they're paid by the defendant's family,
22 Medicaid or private insurance. Putting this in
23 perspective, the 2000--excuse me--the \$250,000
24 investment made by the City Council allowed 94
25 individuals to successfully Staten Island Drug

1
2 Treatment Court Programs in 2014, which saved the
3 city \$6.4 million, and we're asking that you please
4 fund us again. At this point, I think we all agree
5 this program should be considered for baseline
6 funding. However, since that has not yet occurred,
7 I'm again respectfully requesting the New York City
8 Council to make \$250,000 available in the FY2016
9 Adopted Budget so that Staten Island gets its fair
10 share of the discretionary funding for alternatives
11 to incarceration.

12 With regard to new needs, funds are
13 needed in order to address two major areas of
14 concern. Asset forfeiture. I've come here before
15 requesting an asset forfeiture or funds for an asset
16 forfeiture unit. And I was particularly gratified to
17 hear DA Vance speak pointedly and eloquently about
18 the benefits of a vigorous asset forfeiture program.
19 The Office of the Richmond County District Attorney
20 needs a unit to specialize the investigation and
21 prosecution of asset forfeiture cases. Because of
22 the shortage of personnel, we have only 46 lawyers in
23 my office. My office does not have prosecutors
24 working full time on these cases. We believe that
25 there's much low hanging fruit that could be seized

1 personally to the forfeiture laws. We believe this
2 to be true because of the recent success we have
3 experienced with our Crimes Against Revenue Program,
4 the CARP program. That's a grant funded initiative
5 that combats financial crimes. There are 22 counties
6 that are in the CARP program. I believe it's 22
7 counties, and in the last report our office, Richmond
8 County District Attorney, was the top producer in
9 cumulative revenues along with participating counties
10 for the 2011 through 2013 reports. Our return on
11 investment was 387%. We've been able to accomplish
12 this because the grant provided my office with funds
13 to dedicate staff to focus solely on CARP crimes.
14 Because of our success with this program, I strongly
15 believe that a staff dedicated to focusing on asset
16 forfeiture could achieve similar results. A \$211,700
17 funding requirement request has been submitted to OMB
18 for the initiative, but that request was denied.
19 However, I still believe this initiative has great
20 potential, and should be reconsidered for financial
21 support.
22

23 Our second new need, new court part
24 staffing. The second request is related to an
25 unfunded mandate my office is funding--is facing.

1
2 Funding is needed to staff a new court part, which is
3 being added to coincide with the opening of the new
4 courthouse on Staten Island, replacing our courthouse
5 that's even older than your courthouse. [laughs]
6 Current--I wouldn't take them on a tour of our
7 courthouse because it's rodent infested and
8 dangerous. The ceilings are falling down, but we
9 have a new--we have new courthouse. Thank you very
10 much. Currently, criminal court has two parts. The
11 addition of a third court part is going to result in
12 cases being presented to a judge in a more
13 expeditious time frame. In order to staff the new
14 court part, and to be ready to handle an accelerated
15 trial schedule, OCA will be providing a new judge,
16 additional clerks, court reporters, a law secretary
17 and court officers. Since the arson DA is mandated
18 to staff the part, it will be necessary to add two
19 ADAs and two criminal court clerks. I eagerly await
20 the opening of the courthouse and I fully support the
21 added court part. Staten Island has deserved this
22 for quite a long time. However, my office does need
23 the additional resources to address the accelerated
24 workload that will be occurring from this unfunded
25 mandate. Our request for annual funds in the amount

1
2 of \$214,000 was also submitted to OMB, but was
3 denied. I ask for the Council's support in any
4 discussions that may be held with OMB regarding this
5 issues, and, too, thank you for your continued
6 support in lobbying for us. And I also want to
7 publicly thank the Manhattan District Attorney for
8 all that he's been able to do enhance the funding of
9 our office. I greatly appreciate it. Thank you very
10 much.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you
12 very much. You're up Ms. Brennan.

13 BRIDGET BRENNAN: Thank you. Good
14 afternoon. I'm also thanking the Council and the
15 committee chairs for their great support for our
16 office and the DA's offices throughout the years.
17 I'm here to talk to you about two requests that we
18 made, which were not funded in the Executive Budget.
19 And I think recent events point out just how critical
20 our needs are. We requested two--two funding items.
21 One was for the enhancement of our heroin
22 interdiction unit. And the other primary funding
23 request was for additional positions in our IT unit.
24 And I think events that unfolded over the weekend
25 point out just how critical it is that we be funded

1
2 for additional resources to investigate heroin
3 trafficking groups, and enforce our laws here in New
4 York City. Just this weekend on Sunday we were
5 working with a drug enforcement task force team and
6 we seized 70 kilograms of heroin in a lovely section
7 of the Bronx right across from Van Cortlandt Park
8 blocks away from the Horace Mann School in a nice
9 residential area. That area was chosen by a Bronx
10 based narcotics trafficking group, a well, well
11 funded group, a highly intelligent group that was
12 working directly with Mexican traffickers. Mexican
13 traffickers that have strong ties with the Samoan
14 Cartel.

15 We recovered in a hidden compartment in a
16 Suburban the 70 kilograms of heroin. And just to put
17 it into perspective, that 150-pound seizure is bigger
18 than some of our seizures in entire years. It's
19 enough heroin to provide a dose for everyone in New
20 York City. We estimate that a kilogram of heroin
21 yields more than 100,000 glassines of heroin. Each
22 glassine of heroin, which is what use--the form that
23 users typically buy it in, each one contains a half
24 to one grain of heroin. That's--the grain measures
25 an inch measure that's equal to a grain of wheat. A

1 kilogram equals 2.2 pounds. So, if you put it in
2 that perspective, you can understand the volume of
3 heroin that is coming into our city. And you don't
4 have to look just there. Look at the overdose death
5 rates. Overdoses now exceed homicides in New York
6 City. We're only requesting \$280,000 so we can bring
7 four more assistants into our unit. The assistant
8 district attorney who is working on this case, it was
9 a year-long investigation, we are whiting--writing
10 wire taps, tracking orders, search warrants in this
11 case. While the case was unfolding and heating up
12 over the weekend, while we were receiving information
13 that a large load was coming in, she was on trial
14 with another case. All day she would be in the
15 courtroom trying the case. At night, she would come
16 back and she would write orders for the tracking
17 devices for the telephones that we needed. And, of
18 course, we gave her additional personnel. In total,
19 four people in my Special Investigations Bureau was
20 working--they were working on this case at the same
21 time. And that's a quarter of the people I have in
22 that unit. And, of course, the results were
23 extraordinary, and we are--we're so happy to have
24 taken that much heroin off the streets. You have to
25

1
2 understand that we must control the supply of heroin
3 coming into this city. It's not enough to provide
4 Naloxone to the police officers. It's wonderful if
5 they can revive a person, but how many people do they
6 say they revive, 40 last year? The heroin in this
7 seizure would dope up millions. That's not enough.
8 It's not enough to provide funds for rehab. That's
9 the back end of the problem. It's not the front end.
10 When you have an infusion of addictive drugs coming
11 into this city, it is going to create addiction, and
12 we will be dealing with that problem for generations.
13 So we need to clip it off at the top. That's why
14 it's so important to take out a seizure of this
15 nature before the drugs reach the armies of
16 distributors who are happy to carve out their profit
17 by selling it and killing people glassine by
18 glassine. Just think of the drain on our economy.
19 Each one of those glassines goes for about \$10 a
20 glassine. The information we had from this
21 trafficking group is that they were seizing not this-
22 -that they were bringing in not this amount, not just
23 once a month, but twice a month. They brought that
24 much in annually. It's \$1.2 billion going right out
25 of our economy right up someone's nose or into their

1
2 veins. I'm asking four assistants for founding for
3 four assistants to help--help us manage this problem
4 because unfortunately, New York City is the hub of
5 trafficking for the region and for the state. And,
6 we are seeing the influence of the Mexican groups
7 coming into the city. And this particular--with
8 these particular trafficking groups, the Mexicans
9 sent overseers to make sure that the delivery was
10 intact when it came. To make sure that the funds
11 were going to go back to them. The money that they
12 were going to get for this delivery was going to come
13 back, and it's not the first time we've seen it.
14 We've also seen individual family members, family
15 members of the trafficking organizations sending--the
16 heads of the trafficking organizations sending family
17 members to Mexico to be held as collateral until all
18 the monies are paid up. So we have great fears that
19 some of that violence that's deeply associated with
20 these cartel groups will transfer up here if we don't
21 try to clip this off right now. And it's not just
22 heroin that we're seizing. We're also seeing a lot
23 more methamphetamine coming in, and that's another
24 homegrown product for the Mexicans. They produce
25 there and we're seeing more and more of that coming

1
2 up now. And we have great fears, of course, that
3 they're going to be pushing a lot of that out.

4 Now, all these efforts at investigation
5 and prosecuting these cases are completely tied in
6 with our IT resources. That's the only way we're
7 able to keep up with these really well funded
8 sophisticated organizations. And so, we're
9 requesting funding for several positions for our IT.
10 It's all detailed in my testimony. We're requesting
11 about \$670,000 for that. You know, my office runs
12 really close to the bone. We don't have a lot of
13 excess, and we have seen the demand. We have seen
14 the volume just in heroin tripling over the last
15 year. We've had great success, and we will continue
16 our efforts. Our assistants will work double duty,
17 triple duty. You know, they'll work day and night
18 clearly because they're committed and dedicated, but
19 we need help. So that's the--that's the bad news
20 that I have to offer, and that's a summary of my
21 request. But I will leave you with some good news.

22 The Council assisted us in funding some
23 community initiatives, and in your packet you'll see
24 at the very end that we're putting those funds to
25 good work. Just last week we used forfeited funds

1
2 along with the support that you've given us to
3 provide a scoreboard at Wadleigh High School in an
4 area where we had done a major narcotics
5 investigation. And we sponsored a cops and kids
6 basketball game there, which was a great event and
7 it's a wonderful way to demonstrate to the community
8 that not just are we taking away, but we're trying to
9 give back. And we're supporting all the good
10 wonderful things that are going on throughout our
11 city. We're engaged in a number of those types of
12 events with PAL, with the Police Athletic League
13 throughout the city and we hope to be doing another
14 one in Brooklyn pretty soon. So with that, I thank
15 you for your support throughout the years, and I ask
16 you to continue to support us. Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
18 you.

19 [pause]

20 LEROY FRAZER: Good afternoon. My name
21 is Leroy Frazer. I'm Chief of Staff for Brooklyn
22 District Attorney Ken Thompson. I bring you
23 greetings and apologies from him today. District
24 Attorney Thompson would have liked to have been here,
25 but for an unavoidable conflict in commitment, which

1 made it impossible for him to attend. I'm here to
2 read this testimony to you. I'll begin by thank you,
3 Chairpersons Gibson and Ferreras and the Public
4 Safety Committee for this opportunity to address you
5 on the Mayor's Executive Budget. This impact on my
6 office and fiscal challenges facing my office going
7 forward. I would like to begin by thanking the City
8 Council, the Mayor, the Office of Criminal Justice
9 and OMB for their support of my office, and continue
10 to work with us to right size our budget so that we
11 can best serve the people of Brooklyn. As part of
12 the Executive Budget, my office received and
13 additional \$172,000 in baseline for collective
14 bargaining adjustments.
15

16 These adjustments continue to demonstrate
17 the city's commitment to adjusting the wages of our
18 employees who work hard day in and day out on behalf
19 of the people of Brooklyn. While most of the unions
20 representing our employees have settled their
21 contract negotiations the Detective Investigators
22 Union's Contract remains in negotiations. It is our
23 hope that that can be resolved soon as the DI's play
24 an important role in the day-to-day operations of our
25 office. I'd like to talk to you about DTAP.

1
2 Brooklyn remains the borough with the highest number
3 of felony arrests citywide. This caseload is intense
4 and requires dedicated human resources to move their
5 kids through the system within the mandated 24-hour
6 period from arrest to arraignment. In the last two
7 years, Brooklyn arrest to arraignment time has
8 remained under 24 hours. Continuing to keep that
9 average below 24 hours relies upon our office
10 processing those who enter the system efficiently.
11 Once arraigned, it is also our responsibility to seek
12 alternatives to those--for those who enter the system
13 but may be better served by an alternative to
14 incarceration.

15 In Brooklyn, we believe strongly in the
16 use of our alternative programs where appropriate.
17 In the case of those struggling with substance abuse,
18 we believe a program to address that issue decreases
19 the chance of recidivism and helps strengthen the
20 community. We have witnessed these results first
21 hand with our Drug Treatment Alternative Program also
22 called DTAP. This program treats non-violent drug
23 addicted chronic felons with the objective of
24 reducing drug abuse, improving public safety and
25 saving money. Participants must plead to a felony

1 prior to program admission, and the plea agreement
2 includes a specific prison term that will be imposed
3 in the event of treatment failure. Since the
4 program's inception in 1991, it has serve 3,201
5 participants with 50% of participants graduating from
6 DTAP. Most recently, between 2012 and 2014, DTAP
7 accepted 184 participants with 143 graduating from
8 the program. This is a 71% retention and success
9 rate, which is 6% higher than most other long-term
10 programs where the average retention rate is 65%.
11

12 This program is working in Brooklyn. It
13 has been tested and proven. However, DTAP was
14 dependent upon state funding from DCJS. And,
15 unfortunately, in the Governor's budget released in
16 April, this no longer included funding to support
17 this highly successful and important program. I come
18 to the Council today asking that you fund \$128,900 to
19 continue DTAP in Brooklyn. This program is tested
20 and proven to be successful both at rehabilitating
21 those who commit crimes while struggling with
22 substance abuse and saving money by keeping these
23 individuals out of prison and instead giving them the
24 help that they needs. This is a program that we need
25 to continue in Brooklyn, and in order to do so, we

1 need your help. Brooklyn is also in a unique
2 position of dealing with the ever-expanding number of
3 convicted cases that require review. With every case
4 that is publicized, additional cases are sent to my
5 office for review.
6

7 As we work diligently to review all cases
8 placed before us, it remains unclear just how far
9 back or how many cases will require extensive and
10 labor intensive review. Beginning in Fiscal Year 15,
11 my office was provided \$500,000 to expand the
12 Conviction Review Unit to meet this growing need.
13 With the increase in case review comes an additional
14 need for file retrieval and file storage on an
15 ongoing and continuous basis. My office makes
16 requests daily to Doris [sic] for files stored with
17 them, often with a short window of time for
18 retrieval. And this is further compounded by the
19 fact that my office is losing 20,000 square feet of
20 file storage space in the Municipal building in
21 Brooklyn. Which was spaces that had previously been
22 provided by DCAS to our office for file storage with
23 no cost to our office. Records management is vital
24 in a prosecutor's office. The ability of my office
25 to retain and retrieve files in an efficient and

1
2 appropriate manner can make the difference and
3 justice for a victim's family on appeal or a person
4 wrongfully convicted sitting in prison.

5 The pursuit of justice is the
6 responsibility of my office, and with that we seek to
7 take on additional responsibility of records
8 management. I am confident that with adequate space
9 and the proper resources we can successfully manage
10 all of the records we are required to retain and
11 promptly provide those records upon request.

12 Therefore, going forward, my office plans to
13 consolidate all of our file storage in one space,
14 which has been identified in Brooklyn. We made a
15 request to OMB for \$600,000 annually to cover the
16 cost of leasing 60,000 square feet of space. We
17 cannot be subjected to having our vital records being
18 displaced for stored improperly. The responsibility
19 we bear for the pursuit of justice is just too great.
20 So we ask that that the Council support our request
21 for funding for OMB so that we can begin next fiscal
22 year with our records consolidated and stored in a
23 manner for such documents required.

24 In closing, I would again like to thank
25 the Council especially the Brooklyn delegation and

1
2 Chairpersons Gibson and Ferreras for all your hard
3 work in support of my office. We remain appreciative
4 for your continued effort to see the fiscal condition
5 of my office improve. I again ask the Council's
6 support of the DCAP program for funding in the amount
7 of \$128,900 and for your support of our efforts to
8 rectify our records management issue. We remain
9 committed to transforming the Kings County District
10 Attorney's Office into the leading law enforcement
11 agency that the people of Brooklyn deserve. Thank
12 you.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you
14 very much for your testimony. Both Chair Gibson and
15 I recognize that although the morning part of these
16 hearings is when we get all the press and all the
17 fanfare, you really do play an integral role in
18 keeping our community safe. We often talk about
19 policing But, what your agencies do to keep people
20 off the street that shouldn't be on the streets to
21 send a clear message on how we feel about when
22 someone is caught doing a crime that they pay the
23 time or do the time that they're supposed to do. So
24 we just--I want to just share from you that from the
25 Council's perspective we understand how important

1
2 your role is. And hopefully we always are able to
3 reflect that in the budget, right because this is
4 what this time of the year about. So we take this
5 very seriously. We've been joined by Council Members
6 Greenfield, Lancman, Gentile, Crowley and Cumbo. So,
7 I wanted to talk about the asset forfeiture
8 component. Your office announced a major criminal
9 justice initiative being funded by asset forfeiture
10 funds from recent large bank settlements. Have you
11 discussed with agencies what the future cost
12 implications will be for the new programs? And when
13 will the agencies begin to see these additional funds
14 in their budgets, and have you discussed with OMB how
15 these funds will be reflected in each agency's
16 budget?

17 We--with the programs that we are
18 funding, we have spoken several times and
19 specifically with OMB and the Mayor's Office of
20 Criminal Justice

21 CYRUS VANCE: With the programs that we
22 are funding, we have spoken several times and
23 specifically with OMB and the Mayor's Office of
24 Criminal Justice. The funds are--we are still in the
25 process of finalizing with the agencies the timing of

1
2 disbursements of those funds tied hopefully to
3 progress of the--of the project. So, for example,
4 the NYCHA project is going to be done in stages, and
5 so Chairwoman, I don't as I sit here have an exact
6 timeline. I'm happy to ask our staff to give you as
7 definitive a timeline as we can. But we obviously
8 want to work as quickly as we can to put the dollars
9 to use, but to make sure that the dollars are being
10 spent exactly for the purposes for which they were
11 asked. And that the--and that metrics, the
12 measurements of the--those programs meet our
13 expectations. To make sure we're investing wisely.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great
15 because that was my next question. We have a
16 challenge getting transparency measurables from--from
17 OMB sometimes. Nothing I wouldn't tell Dean Fuleihan
18 himself every opportunity that I get. But I'm hoping
19 that we can set the measurables and those metrics on
20 the front end so that we're not regretting it later.

21 CYRUS VANCE: Yeah.

22 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And then
23 I noted that you've been in conversations with
24 Michael Jacobson over at CUNY on how to spend the
25 remaining approximate \$550 million in funds. Has

1 there been any progress or updates on the remaining
2 monies?
3

4 CYRUS VANCE: Yes, there has been. We
5 are working--Mike Jacobson and--and formerly head of
6 Vera, now runs the CUNY Initiative for State and
7 Local Governments. It was my belief that with this
8 infusion of forfeiture dollars, I needed to make sure
9 that since we weren't experts in funding that--or
10 foundation work that we brought in his--his
11 experience in city government and--as the head of
12 Vera to be a technical coordinator for us. So, Mike
13 and his team have been working for roughly four or
14 five months for us. They, I think are in the final
15 two or three months of a detailed assessment and
16 presentation for me on what recommendations for
17 funding they--they have in the areas we've asked them
18 to look into, which include, for example, crime
19 prevention, domestic violence. And some broad
20 categories where we understand that these funds
21 should be invested. So, Madam Chairwoman, I don't
22 have the final direction from Mike. I can tell you
23 that he knows that I am anxiously awaiting that
24 discussion. And to let you know that at the end of
25 that process, which I believe will take place over

1
2 the next several months, we will issue RFPs in each
3 one of these areas. And--and we welcome the City
4 Council's input.

5 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great
6 because that was going to be my follow up because
7 we're experts in budget here and how to give money.
8 At least we like to think we are. We would love to
9 find a way or a space for us to engage, and kind of
10 share what we see from the citywide perspective on
11 some of those needs.

12 CYRUS VANCE: Well, I think that we do
13 intend--Mike has been reaching out not just to his
14 office, but to external actors in the community to
15 get their advice. And I'm confident that Mike will
16 happily make himself available to you or your staff--

17 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
18 [interposing] Excellent.

19 CYRUS VANCE: --to understand your--your
20 ideas, and get your input.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great.
22 Thank you.

23 CYRUS VANCE: Yeah.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: This is
25 to Judge Brown and I guess anyone else that would

1
2 like to chime in. In particular in my district
3 Roosevelt Avenue, which you're very familiar with,
4 which probably gives you a lot of business over in
5 your office we've seen an uptick in gang violence and
6 we still have issues with sex trafficking and
7 prostitution. With this new immigrant unit that you
8 have created, how you see bolstering that? How can
9 you better address the issues that we have in crime
10 directly in our districts especially when it comes to
11 trafficking, and the uptick in gang violence?

12 RICHARD BROWN: We've been doing a fair
13 amount of work in the area of sex trafficking in
14 particularly as it affects the area that you
15 represent. And around Roosevelt Avenue in Jackson
16 Heights, and we have people who are dedicated to
17 those kinds of prosecutions. We usually more
18 recently adopted statute that gives us a better
19 handle on prosecutions. We're aggressive on a day-
20 to-day basis, but there are all kinds of
21 investigative tools and I've seen as a result a
22 number of traffickers being sent to state prison for
23 long periods of time as a result of our
24 aggressiveness.

25

1
2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Now, I
3 know that we've talked about this in the past when I
4 work my hat as women's chair and we have our amazing
5 women's chair here, who I'm sure is ready for her
6 list of questions. But, you know, often times we
7 focus on prostitution from the woman's perspective.
8 And I feel like there's really very few or very
9 occasionally do we focus on the men or those who are
10 actually soliciting. And then with the Johns School,
11 I don't know if there's Johns School across all five
12 of the boroughs. Is that what it's called? I hope
13 it's called John School. Is it? Or Johns. It
14 shouldn't be called John School but whatever. Is--
15 from your perspective what can we do better? What
16 can we fund? What can we do from the Council to
17 support you, and obviously if there's less people
18 soliciting in the areas there will be less
19 prostitution. I think the only way you can do that
20 is if they know at any minute if I pick up one night
21 of three women, one of them might be a cop and I
22 might have to go and stand in front of you guys.
23 They might not do it. So what can we do better as
24 opposed to them understanding the worst that's going
25

1 to happen means I'm going to end up in John's School,
2 if that's what it's called?

3
4 RICHARD BROWN: Well, you can certainly
5 help us in terms of funding in giving us additional
6 assistance to work that--

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
8 [interposing] But funding where? Funding in what?
9 Do you know?

10 RICHARD BROWN: Funding by way of the
11 monies for additional assistance and investigators,
12 the prosecution, the prosecutors that fund those
13 kinds of cases.

14 CYRUS VANCE: Madam Chair, for our office
15 I and I think for all our offices, the--the role of
16 the consumer is part of the chain of business
17 operations in a sex trafficking organization.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right.

19 CYRUS VANCE: So from our office's
20 perspective we have--the city is already working with
21 us for example in our Midtown Community Court where
22 all men or women arrested for prostitution are--are
23 sent, and we are actually interviewing each one of
24 those cases to determine if the individual--the
25 prostitute, the man or woman is a trafficked

1 individual or not. And that takes time and it takes
2 trust, but we are finding increasing success when we
3 are staffing those community court and identifying
4 prostituted individuals who are victims to then
5 provide them the services that's necessary. In some
6 cases they're providing the evidence that is
7 necessary for us to bring cases. But if you were to
8 say to me how can I help you, I think I think it's in
9 funding the sex trafficking units and work that's
10 being done. And these are business enterprises.
11 They need to be investigated like business
12 enterprises. You need to identify the leadership
13 and--and long-term investigations where they're on
14 wire talking about their operations. You need to
15 identify the supply chain, and that's the livery
16 drivers often who are bringing women in from out of
17 state into--in and around Manhattan. And to help
18 make the cases against them, and in--in a large sex
19 trafficking case we did involving extensive wire
20 taps, we did indict 12 consumers for misdemeanors
21 albeit, but for misdemeanors and those cases I can
22 tell you rapidly pled guilty. And there's nothing
23 like a wire tap--
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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

[interposing] Right.

CYRUS VANCE: --or a strong criminal case to--to get a swift disposition. And that ultimately saves I think the city money.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay, thank you. I'm going to have my co-chair ask her lines of questions, and then we'll open it up to members who will follow the chair. Chair Gibson.

CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Thank you, Madam Chair and again good afternoon, and thank you for all the information you have shared and truly working with you in partnership I look at your work as a huge part of public safety. So I'm going to start with the most senior day and just go down the line and ask each of you a question. So, DA Johnson, in your-- your remarks today you really talked about a lot of the backlog of cases. Which I'm very concerned about. So I wanted to know with some of the funds that you go in FY15 to deal with the Complaint Room and other matters in your office, how can we help you this year reduce some of that case backlog that we have. And the reason I raise that issue is not just the DA's office, but I know that there was a recent

1 announcement with the Mayor and MOCJ with Liz Glazer
2 as well as our Chief of our Court Chief Jonathan
3 Lippman about how we're going to deal with Rikers
4 Island cases that are beyond a year of not having an
5 actual trial that has started. So I just wanted to
6 know what we can offer to assist you to deal with the
7 backlog of cases as well as those cases that are
8 outstanding on Rikers Island without having a trial?

9
10 ROBERT JOHNSON: [off mic] Tell me the
11 beginning of the question.

12 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: The case backlog.

13 ROBERT JOHNSON: Yeah, in--in actuality
14 the--the money that you're giving us has been of
15 assistance to us.

16 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, it's approved
17 but you still have issues?

18 ROBERT JOHNSON: We have added people in
19 our complaint room for instance at the front end
20 speeding that process, but the system you're talking
21 about where people then are receiving on Rikers
22 Island is really the back end.

23 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay.

24 ROBERT JOHNSON: We have 35 assistants
25 coming on in September that will help us. There'll

1
2 be new assistances there with misdemeanors, but that
3 will help us move other people up through the bureau
4 so that we will have more people available to do the
5 felony cases. That will help us on that end.
6 Unfortunately, though, as I indicated in my remarks
7 that doesn't help that much is there's no additional
8 courtroom to take these cases to trial. The reason
9 the cases are languishing is because there has been
10 no agreement on what--whether there should be a plea,
11 and if there should be a plea what the sentence would
12 be in these cases. And that means a trial is
13 necessitated. You may have if you've read about the
14 announcement, the Mayor and the Chief Judge you may
15 have read that I don't share their optimism about
16 this particular program. I'm cooperating with them,
17 but as I see it, it's asking me to do what we've
18 already been doing. Which is identifying the
19 longest--the oldest cases--

20 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Right.

21 ROBERT JOHNSON: --and putting--focusing
22 our attention on it and communicating with our
23 administrative judge about how we can deal with that.
24 We were doing that long before this program. We were
25 doing that when I was an assistant DA and Burton

1
2 Roberts was the Administrative Judge screaming about
3 cases over standards and goals. In their
4 announcement, they alluded to some success that we
5 had in the Bronx previously in addressing the
6 backlog, and in the same breath, they mentioned that
7 when they did that, they sent additional judges to
8 the Bronx. They sent judges from other counties to
9 help us address the backlog. Those judges are no
10 longer there. This program that they announced did
11 not do anything on that level. So although I am
12 cooperating and working with them, as I told you in
13 my statement, the main thing you could do is address
14 the Legislature and the Governor and the Chief Judge
15 and say, why aren't we talking about expanding the
16 system? Because when you help any county now from
17 zero to come to some gain, you're taking somebody
18 from another county. And both civilly and criminally
19 the backlogs are there. They may not be as severe as
20 they are in our county, but people have backlogs in
21 cases. So I have never gotten a satisfactory answer
22 to that question, I'm asking you to help me get that
23 answer.

24 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, so with some
25 of the temporary judges that are assigned to the

1 Bronx, does that come with supportive staff as well?

2 I didn't realize that those judges that I knew were

3 coming to the borough have now returned to their

4 locations. I thought it was more of a long-term plan

5 to really address some of these excessively long

6 cases that have not gone to trial where these

7 individuals still remain on Rikers Island.

8
9 ROBERT JOHNSON: Unfortunately, it's one

10 in series of short term plans. And with respect to

11 the addition of these resources, you know, non-

12 traditional resources, the answer is both yes and no.

13 Some were provided, but I can remember at least one

14 instance where, you know, you had more judges than

15 you had courtrooms. So it did--it didn't really even

16 having extra people couldn't help at that point. So

17 we had to work that out. It is--there has never been

18 a long-term actually to my knowledge.

19 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay. So we'll keep

20 talking about that, and I'm more than happy to help

21 in any regard. The Council will certainly work with

22 you. With last year's FY15 funding were you able to

23 hire additional staff, and if so, have those staff

24 been hired and they're ready to start? Because I

25 haven't seen anything reflected from any prosecutor

3 in the raise in headcount in terms of ADAs and other
4 supportive staff.

5 ROBERT JOHNSON: Well, I think our
6 support staff has raised in headcount.

7 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay.

8 ROBERT JOHNSON: Assistant DAs were
9 raised in September. We've made offers to people.

10 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: What was that
11 number, it was 35?

12 ROBERT JOHNSON: Yes.

13 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay.

14 ROBERT JOHNSON: We've made offers to
15 people to start in September. But we did staff the
16 Complaint Room, which was in dire straits in terms of
17 support staff. We are awaiting the staffing of
18 current Strategies Unit because of the space issues.
19 So we've put out--we're interviewing for one
20 position. We've put out a job posting for another,
21 but a number of positions. One we filled internally,
22 but a number of positions are on hold because we are
23 still talking to OMB about the space. OMB and the
24 Mayor's Office about the space.

25 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay

ROBERT JOHNSON: And DCAS, I'm sorry.

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CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: And DCAS. Okay.
Thank you. Judge Brown, I wanted to just ask a question. We've been talking very closely back and forth as Council and your office about the pressing need for a centralized location for your staff, and the need to utilize the old Queen's House Detention. And I know DOC has been involved and all the other stakeholder, but are there any recent updates that you could provide for us. So that we can see. You know, I'm a little frustrated that it's taking this long, to be honest. And I'm just trying to understand what we can do to kind of expedite this so you really get the space that you need, and you don't have staff over, you know, several buildings in Queens?

RICHARD BROWN: Well, what you can do basically for us right now is to press Liz Glazer's operation to do something about that present space problem. You know, every night when I go home from the office I pass by--go out the back way and pass by the Queens House--

CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Uh-huh, empty building.

1
2 RICHARD BROWN: --it's a 10-story
3 building and with the exception of one lower floor
4 that's used for intake of the prisoners on a daily
5 basis--

6 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Uh-
7 huh.

8 RICHARD BROWN: --from Rikers, the rest
9 is totally empty. And all we've got to do as a
10 practical matter is to renovate that building.
11 You'll save yourself about \$3 million a year in terms
12 of rental costs. And as I've indicated I'm prepared
13 to go to Washington and ask the Treasury Office to
14 allow us to use probably upwards of \$50 million--

15 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Okay.

16 RICHARD BROWN: --to join with the city
17 in renovating [coughs] that facility. It will make
18 our life so much easier, and it will be so much more
19 efficient in terms of our operation. You know, I'm
20 an old criminal court judge. I was the supervising
21 judge of the Brooklyn Criminal Court in the mid-70s.
22 And I'd like to think I know a little bit about
23 moving cases, and like we need trial capacity. We
24 need efficiency in terms of where our assistants are
25 located. And literally I think you--I think as I

1 recall, you and I sat in our conference where my--if
2 you punched a hole in my conference room wall, you'd
3 be in the Queens House of Detention.
4

5 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay.

6 RICHARD BROWN: And since 2002, it's been
7 totally empty.

8 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Right. Okay. So
9 we'll keep working on that. Certainly, you have our
10 support because it's necessary to give you the space
11 that's needed. DA Vance. I first want to thank for
12 the incredible investment. Of particular importance
13 to me is NYCHA and the 15 developments that we were
14 looking at in terms of the level of crime. I
15 represent one of the Bronx Butler Houses. So they're
16 going to be a recipient of this \$101 million. So I
17 appreciate that as well as the Mayor's Behavioral
18 Task Force. We're working very closely with that.
19 So all of this to me is really an investment. To me
20 it's really a partnership. So I appreciate your
21 office and the work that you continue to do in
22 recognizing that the money that comes to Manhattan
23 obviously can benefit all of us across the city. So
24 I thank you for that.
25

1
2 I just wanted to know if you could expand
3 a little bit from me on this new initiatives that
4 you're looking to do with MOCJ around the citywide
5 Justice Provider Management System to better look at
6 some of our diversion programs that could be offered
7 potentially in place of incarceration. So if I'm
8 understanding this are we looking at now having one
9 universal database that your staff and all of your
10 staff would have access to, to look at alternative
11 incarceration and attention and all of the other like
12 anti-violence programs. So we're looking at
13 everything in totality so that we have direct access
14 where that could be a recommendation instead of
15 incarceration.

16 CYRUS VANCE: Correct--

17 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Right?

18 CYRUS VANCE: --and this has been a
19 subject in a discussion with MOCJ for some time, and
20 it reflects at least my frustration over the years at
21 knowing whether-- First of all, if someone needs
22 diversion to make sure that that is identified, but
23 to have--to know where to send that person so that is
24 a program that has good results. And is not just an
25 ad hoc assessment by a judge. I think we--we all

1 benefit to a great degree if the universe of programs
2 as identified they are determined whether to be
3 qualified or not. I think that could help--help out
4 us all.
5

6 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: So with MOCJ and Liz
7 Glazer's office administering a lot of these
8 contracts, in these contracts they have performance
9 measurements and indicators to determine the success
10 of the program. So if you're looking at the efficacy
11 of the programs, are you working with her office to
12 ensure that the performance goals are the same in
13 terms of success that would demonstrate using that
14 program, and obviously making it a recommendation for
15 the centers?

16 CYRUS VANCE: [interposing] Yes is the
17 answer.

18 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay.

19 CYRUS VANCE: I cannot, Chairwoman, give
20 you the exact details of--the details to support my
21 affirmative answer. But yes--the--we are working
22 with MOCJ to make sure that we are sending
23 individuals to programs that are effective, been
24 proven effective and for their needs with an eye
25

1
2 towards ultimately reducing costs of incarceration
3 and reducing change of recidivism.

4 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, great. Thank
5 you very much, and now our Acting DA Mr. Master. So,
6 we've had several conversations, and I am a firm
7 believer that the TASC program really should be
8 baselined. I--I think it's a huge priority for
9 Richmond County and, you know, simply coming every
10 year asking for the same \$250 is not conducive. So,
11 I agree with you, and I certainly will make sure we
12 have our conversations about that. But I just wanted
13 to ask a question about, and I think someone may have
14 mentioned it before just in terms of post-Sandy. And
15 a lot of the homeowners that are unfortunately
16 becoming victims from unscrupulous people that are
17 taking advantage of them as it relates to their
18 property. Are you guys looking at some of those
19 cases, and what we can do to provide more service.
20 And also on the preventative side as well for many of
21 the families that were victimized by Hurricane Sandy?

22 DANIEL MASTER: We have been working
23 along with the Eastern District of New York on some
24 of these cases because some of these involve federal
25 funds, FEMA funds are involved. So that the

1 prosecution of the garden variety fraud case would
2 come to us, and the other cases that involve federal
3 funds would go to their--go into their offices. But
4 those prosecutions are considering of--of proceeding
5 on both fronts.
6

7 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, okay. Next,
8 Ms. Brennan. So I am extremely thankful for your
9 work and, you know, this past weekend's announcement
10 obviously is very alarming that we have that level of
11 heroin coming into our city. And as someone who
12 represents the Bronx where there's a high volume of
13 traffic, I am surrounded by highways in my district.
14 So I know this is a growing concern. So I want to
15 have an offline conversation with you about some of
16 the specific concerns that may have been raised by
17 OMB about the two requests you have. Because I think
18 that we certainly need to make a stronger argument on
19 why it is important to ramp up your heroin unit.

20 What I wanted to ask is in some of the
21 cases that you--your office has been involved in with
22 some of the--not just drug, but also the gun violence
23 and a lot of the takedowns that we had. I had one in
24 my district last year because of a group of gangs.
25 And after that takedown we had a teen academy that

1 was started at the local middle school. On the
2 weekend hours, Friday and Saturday we had teams
3 coming in, and we had a number of different
4 recreational opportunities. So a lot of those
5 programs are never permanent. But, I was wondering
6 on the end of the heroin prescription addiction and
7 just overdoses we have across the city, is there
8 anything that we're looking to do when those takedown
9 happen in terms of providing some community support.
10 Just like we do with the teen academies around gun
11 violence. Are we looking at anything, or is there
12 anything that we could do with some of that money
13 that we're seizing? Is there anything that's in the
14 plan or in the works?

16 BRIDGET BRENNAN: It's--we've done a
17 variety of things with the various DA's offices after
18 major efforts. The kind of case that we took down
19 over the weekend doesn't really lend itself to that
20 sort of--

21 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Okay.
22 Because it was so large, right?

23 BRIDGET BRENNAN: --It was large. The
24 number of people arrested was relatively small. There
25 were four. The impact on the community isn't felt

1 the same way as if you take a street level dealing
2 operation where somebody's brother might be arrested,
3 somebody's husband might be arrested. It's much more
4 localized. The individuals that we arrested in this
5 case weren't exactly living--

7 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Right.

8 BRIDGET BRENNAN: --in any meaningful way
9 where there drugs were seized. So that kind of a
10 linkage doesn't--it--it--it's a bit of a stretch.
11 What we've done in terms of heroin and prescription
12 drugs is actually we did some work in Staten Island
13 helping to bring in a really powerful speaker who had
14 been a NBA basketball star who developed an addiction
15 to prescription pills and then heroin. And then
16 spoke to--spoke at a couple of high schools there.
17 His names was Chris Heroin--Herren. He was featured
18 in one of the ESPN 30 for 30 programs. So I think we
19 need to do a whole lot more in terms of outreach and
20 information for young people. Because that is where
21 we see a lot of abuse of prescription drugs, which--
22 which then leads to heroin. And I am very happy. In
23 fact, I've reached out to--we--we used to have a
24 working relationship, a working group wit the City
25 Health Department, and I'm hoping we'll start that up

1
2 again. I don't think that young people find
3 prosecutors the most compelling source of information
4 on this subject. So, I think we have to find other
5 people to talk to them who can reach them where they
6 live. And so, that--that those are the kinds of
7 efforts that we're engaged in. But I really think,
8 you know any--anybody who wants to sit down and talk
9 to me about an effective way to get out a message,
10 I'm all ears.

11 DANIEL MASTER: If I can just add to
12 that.

13 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Sure.

14 DANIEL MASTER: Chris Herren spoke at a--
15 a movie theater on Staten Island. We 1,100 at-risk
16 students there, and he respected--

17 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: 1,100?

18 DANIEL MASTER: 1,100--

19 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: [interposing] Okay.

20 DANIEL MASTER: --at-risk students there.
21 They were picked by their principals and brought to
22 the theater. You know how rowdy kids can be. When
23 Chris Herren spoke, you could hear a pin drop because
24 they were listening to someone who threw away a
25 multi-million dollar NBA career for drugs. A man who

1
2 OD'd several times, believed he was dead several
3 times. A man who in the middle--at half time at a
4 Boston Celtics game went out to the street in his
5 uniform to purchase narcotics. That's how desperate
6 he was. But just as you could hear a pin drop now,
7 you could hear a pin drop in the theater full with
8 1,100 students. He was a very good messenger for
9 that message. So I second what the Special Narcotics
10 Prosecutor said.

11 BRIDGET BRENNAN: Yeah, he worked closely
12 with Daytop Village, which is now merged with I think
13 Phoenix House, and I got to know him through the
14 course of a lot of different projects that I'd worked
15 on. And he was a tremendous compelling speaker. So
16 that--that's the kind of, you know, messenger that
17 can reach young people.

18 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, thank you. So
19 just one last question for Mr. Frazer of course, the
20 Brooklyn DA. When we have had conversations with the
21 DA I know he's been working with OMB and there is a
22 request in to deal with some of the storage issues.
23 And I would like to know, and we can talk offline,
24 some of the concerns they may have raised and why
25 they don't feel that that funding is necessary. But

1 I also know, and I thank you for pointing it out,
2 about the state funding, which is for the DTAP.
3 Which I'm very concerned about because it is such a
4 successful program, and certainly I'm speaking for
5 myself but I want to work with you on that to see how
6 we can be supportive of keeping that program intact.
7 In FY15, DA Thompson go a couple million dollars to
8 look at the corruption unit and some of his other
9 units. Have you been able to hire some of the staff,
10 and when are they starting and are you looking to
11 still make more changes in some of those units?

12 LEROY FRAZER: Yes. First of all, with
13 OMB on storage issues, the only initial pushback that
14 they've wanted from us was to find out to what extent
15 DCAS was going to supplant us financially based on
16 having asked us to move from the 20,000 square feet
17 that we had in the municipal building. So we went
18 back to DCAS. DCAS said that while they did have
19 some funds to help us move, any permanent funding to
20 store and to retrieve files they did not have. But
21 the--they sat--worked with us. Helped us and agreed
22 on the identified space that I spoke about in their
23 testimony. And have agreed to support us with going
24 back to OMB to try and get the monies needed to move
25

1
2 and consolidate a movement to that space. So we plan
3 to go back to them, and we do have DCAS support but
4 better we ask for your support as well. You're
5 right, last year we received additional funding for
6 those positions. We did do some hiring and are
7 continuing to do so. And we have funding for about
8 45 employees and various units, Conviction Review
9 Unit, Crime Strategies Unit, Immigrant Frauds,
10 Healthcare Frauds, Cyber crime and additional frauds.
11 It took some time in hiring, which actually resulted
12 ironically in generating some savings for us, but we
13 have hired and we are continuing to do so. And we
14 are fully--we're confident whereby in the next fiscal
15 year we will be fully staffed, and where we need to
16 be in the office for those units. Actually, in terms
17 of ADAs, we've increased. We're up to--right now we
18 have 480. With the class coming in the fall, we will
19 be up to 535 assistant district attorneys. So we're--
20 --we are moving forward on that--on that front and we
21 really do appreciate the funding that came the last
22 time.

23 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: What was the last
24 number? You said 5--

25

1
2 LEROY FRAZER: 535 assistant district
3 attorneys.

4 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: 535.

5 LEROY FRAZER: Yes.

6 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: Okay, thank you so
7 much. I appreciate it. Madam Chair.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
9 you, Chair Gibson. We will now have a round of
10 questions. The first round will be five minutes.
11 Council Member Gentile followed by Council Member
12 Lancman. We have a Democratic caucus of three. So
13 if you don't want to take your five minutes, you
14 don't have to. [laughter] No pressure. Gentile
15 followed by Lancman.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you, Madam
17 Chair. Thank you and thank you to all the DAs and
18 the Special Prosecutors for being--Special
19 Prosecutors for being here. It's very impressive.
20 It's always very impressive to have all the city DAs
21 and the Special Prosecutor together in one room. So
22 that's great and to--to Acting DA Master, I--I
23 congratulate you on your new title, but I have to
24 tell you I worked very hard to change the dynamic
25 that was presented here today. So, I--I knew one of

1
2 us wouldn't be here today, and it turned out to be
3 Mr. Donovan so-- [laughs] So, congratulations, kudos
4 and kudos to you. Let me--let me--it seems to--it
5 seems that the trend throughout a lot of the
6 testimony was--was money for space issues. And, I
7 guess the more things change the more they stay the
8 same because when I worked for you, Judge Brown, you-
9 -we were scattered all throughout the borough of
10 Queens all along--up and down Queens Boulevard in
11 Jamaica and Long Island City. And--and I guess that
12 problem continues today with even a greater number of
13 people that you have to deal with. I'm curious
14 Judge, the \$920,000 that you say is a--is a shortfall
15 for--for additional rental costs, does that exclude
16 the House--the Men's House of Detention Issue? That-
17 -that's not within this \$920,000?

18 RICHARD BROWN: That's correct. I mean
19 the--the monies that we're seeking now is for the
20 shortfall and short-term leasing. We've got to add
21 to the space we already have, four and a half floors
22 at 80-02 and the intake operation. It's in Borough
23 Hall and also the Annex in the courthouse and our own
24 facility.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: And--and the
3 House of Detention is just a separate negotiation?

4 RICHARD BROWN: A separate part. Totally
5 separate.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: All right. Have
7 you made the request to OMB for the \$920,000?

8 RICHARD BROWN: My understanding is yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes. Okay.

10 RICHARD BROWN: Is that right?

11 FEMALE SPEAKER: Definitely.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: But it's
13 obviously not in the Executive Budget so you're--
14 you're asking for it.

15 RICHARD BROWN: Well, my hope is over the
16 course of these next few weeks, they will be
17 sufficiently responsive to you and to me, and provide
18 us with those monies. Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Great. Okay,
20 that's great and also Mr. Frazer you also--you
21 mentioned and we just talked about it--about the
22 \$600,000 annually for the warehouse space--

23 LEROY FRAZER: Uh-huh.
24
25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: --and you made
3 the request to OMB and you're still waiting on that
4 response also?

5 LEROY FRAZER: That's correct. We have
6 to go back to them now that we've answered some of
7 their questions about meeting with DCAS. So we will
8 be going back there to get those assets. [sic]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Okay, so this is
10 physical file space that you need?

11 LEROY FRAZER: Yes, it's for--it is.
12 Just to give you an idea, we put--we're looking to
13 consolidate. At Doris right now we have 25,000
14 square feet and we pay about \$138,000 annually for
15 it. At 2010 Joralemon, which is the old municipal
16 building there in Brooklyn, we had another 30,000
17 square feet of storage space, and we have space in
18 our office. If you consolidate all of that in one
19 location, which we're doing in with the 60,000 square
20 feet that we're looking for, we would then be
21 responsible for all of our storage. It would be more
22 convenient for retrieving, more convenient for the
23 city as well in terms of saving money. If we were to
24 have to go and store out in New Jersey and we have to
25 pay every time they're retrieved back and forth.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Okay.

3

LEROY FRAZER: This is better.

4

5

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Great. Okay,
great and Mr. Master, you are--you have the space but
you don't have the personnel it seems, right?

6

7

DANIEL MASTER: [off mic] Yes.

8

9

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: You have the
extra court cart [sic], but you made a request to OMB
but it was denied?

10

11

12

13

14

15

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DANIEL MASTER: That's correct and we
believe that this is really an unfunded mandate
because they saw the need to increase OCS personnel,
but there really needs to be a corresponding need
for--to be met in our office because we have to man
that part everyday. We have to staff that part
everyday. And that's an--those are institutions
assignments--

19

20

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: [interposing]
Sure.

21

22

DANIEL MASTER: --that have to be staffed
on a daily basis.

23

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: So you got your
answer already from OMB?

25

DANIEL MASTER: We did--

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: [interposing] So-

3

-

4

DANIEL MASTER: --and it was a thumbs

5

down.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Correct.

7

DANIEL MASTER: So we--we hope springs

8

eternal. So we come here and we ask if you could

9

help lobby them for us and with us, and we see the

10

good sense in asking for this, and--

11

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Great.

12

DANIEL MASTER: --hope that you do as

13

well.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Great, thanks.

15

With three seconds to go I am done. Thank you.

16

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank

17

you. I appreciate saving those three seconds.

18

Council Member Lancman followed by Council Member

19

Cumbo.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Good afternoon,

21

everyone. It is good to see all of you here. I hope

22

you--all of you left folks back in your offices

23

minding the shop, and I know how hard all of you work

24

to keep us safe. Most of the questions that I would

25

ask, have been asked. I would just want to make an

1 observation as we try to do battle on your behalf to
2 give you the resources that you need. How much of
3 the--the city's criminal justice agenda reforming the
4 criminal justice system, which is a big part of
5 Mayor's agenda, it's a big part of the Council's
6 agenda falls on your shoulders without any additional
7 or nearly enough additional resources. I mean
8 everything that we're talking about whether it's the
9 Mayor's Behavioral Task Force, reducing the number of
10 people at Rikers Island, the issue of how we police
11 low-level marijuana possessions, low-level quality of
12 life offenses. My committee, I chair the Committee
13 on Courts and Legal Services, has been focusing a
14 number of times this year on the specialty courts,
15 which you all have to staff. I'm more familiar with
16 the Queen's District Attorney's Office, perhaps than
17 other. You've got an alternative--alternative
18 sentencing director. It's a tremendous resource
19 drain on your offices. And it is very disheartening
20 to learn that some of your most basic needs can't be
21 met, whether it relates to office space or just the
22 staffing that you already have. So with my
23 colleagues, we're certainly going to do everything we
24 can to try to get you the resources that you need so
25

1 that we can enact this big grand reform agenda that
2 we--that we like to talk about. And certainly in
3 Queens in particular to visit Judge Brown's office
4 and to have district attorney's assistance. You
5 know, in the far, far foreign reaches of--of Queens
6 Boulevard when you've got this building right there
7 is enormously--enormously frustrating.

9 Let me just ask a couple of questions DA
10 Vance, we had had a hearing on veterans courts and I
11 think you had released some kind of statement. I
12 don't want to mischaracterize it, but there currently
13 is not a veterans court in Manhattan. You had
14 indicated that there might be one or you were looking
15 at one or there was going to be one. And I don't
16 want to mischaracterize it. What's the status of
17 establishing a veterans court in Manhattan?

18 CYRUS VANCE: Currently, there is no
19 active plan to establish a veterans court. I--we do
20 have a very developed mental health court, and there
21 is I believe a significant overlap between the needs
22 of veterans who come into the criminal justice system
23 and individuals who have mental illnesses. So, I--I
24 am completely open, and supportive of focusing on
25 veterans issues in our courthouse. And would welcome

1
2 the chance to talk about with our borough presidents
3 and with whomever at the Office of Court
4 Administration. But, we do not currently have a
5 veterans court, but I do believe that we serve that
6 community at least to some significant extent through
7 our mental health court.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: And then let me
9 ask you--each of you. I think--I think each of you
10 have talked about the lack of judges. And I want to
11 know whether or not there might be the opportunity in
12 other words fulfill the--the kind of needs that
13 you're talking about. While we want for Albany to
14 create more judgeships, good luck. I've been there.
15 Whether or not there might be the opportunity to
16 create more acting Supreme Court judges, whether or
17 not we might want to go to Albany and ask for more
18 criminal court judges. Somehow it's not the ideal
19 answer, but somehow to fill that gap, which I think
20 both of you have talked about.

21 LEROY FRAZER: Unfortunately, that's
22 similar to what's--what's been going on because
23 that's once again borrowing from Peter to pay Paul.
24 Because the criminal courts then end up with a
25 backlog. The former chief judge instituted the

1 merged court in the Bronx to try to address that
2 issue so that all the judges would be available to
3 both courts. And, it did for a time drive down the
4 backlog in the Supreme Court, but the backlog in
5 Criminal Court rose. So, it's--it's--you know, it's
6 still the same number of judges with--with
7 additional--you know, you still have the Criminal
8 Court caseload to deal with also. So it's--it's not--
9 not really a total win.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Well, I--I--I've
12 heard Bronx has gotten some more influence in Albany
13 lately.

14 LEROY FRAZER: I didn't hear.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: I've heard the
16 Bronx has gotten some more influence in Albany.

17 LEROY FRAZER: Did you hear that from
18 Govern Cuomo, or you heard that from the Speaker,
19 huh. [laughs] We're doing well here in the City
20 Council also.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Yeah, you're
22 doing all right. The Bronx is doing all right.
23 Judge, do you want that first one?

24 RICHARD BROWN: Yeah. I just wanted to
25 point out to you that that I think you had him

1
2 testify here. Doug Knight who is the Alternate--
3 Alternative Sentencing full-time Director at my
4 office. He supervises all the specialty courts. And
5 we've really had great success in terms of--of
6 veterans court, for example, mental health court.
7 The court that deals with young women who found
8 themselves involved in sex trafficking, DTAP, all of
9 those things. But the key in the last analysis, the
10 case processing as far as I'm concerned is trial
11 capacity. And you give us the trial capacity these
12 cases end up being disposed of rather quickly. We
13 don't have the trial capacity and language on the
14 calendars. So we certainly need more courtrooms. We
15 need more judges. We need an ability to go ahead and
16 press forward.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: And I'm sure
18 you'll press that point in the Mayor's task force in
19 trying to reduce the backlog of--of--from outstanding
20 cases on--on Rikers Island. But, you know, we all
21 have a responsibility to press that case. Thank you
22 very much.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you
24 Council Member Lancman. Council Member Cumbo
25 followed by Council Member Miller.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Chairs
3 Ferreras and Gibson, and thank you all for being here
4 today as well. I have three questions and so I'll
5 try and stay in my timeframe. Mr. Frazer, as you
6 know, in Brooklyn specifically, which I'm very
7 pleased about, but also noticing and recognizing that
8 any shooting is one shooting too many. But shooting
9 incidents are up 5.3% with spikes in each borough
10 except Brooklyn where they are down 11.7%. The
11 number of shooting victims is up 3.3% citywide, but
12 down 15.7 in Brooklyn. And so this comes from a
13 Daily News article and just want to--to gain
14 understanding of as we're looking in terms of the
15 budget and where to place resources, what's working
16 in Brooklyn in terms of where resources being put
17 that's allowing us to have that decrease in crime in
18 that way. And are there any other factors that are
19 contributing that you could name even outside the
20 DA's purview necessarily that's also contributing to
21 the fact that shootings are going down in Brooklyn?

22 LEROY FRAZER: I can only speak from the
23 conversations that we've had within the office from
24 the DA's purview. Quite frankly, I think that our
25 relationship and working relationship with the Police

1 Department through their--our Crimes Strategies Unit,
2 where we are looking, following on--on the back of
3 what was established in Manhattan where we are
4 looking to identify the drivers of crime. And
5 looking to work closely with the gangs chiefs from
6 the Police Department. And then trying to respond to
7 shootings and anticipating any retaliatory shootings
8 and that sort of thing. So I think the coordinated
9 efforts of what we've been learning about how to
10 fight crime (a) from the standpoint of gathering the
11 data, strategizing and looking to do different things
12 including the new and renovated programs we're doing--
13 --we're trying to do both in Brooklyn and in Manhattan
14 on the Project Reset. I think all of those things
15 and trying to think a little bit differently into
16 approach to where we are now and where we think we'd
17 like to see things going in the future.

19 ROBERT JOHNSON: I just want to echo what
20 LeRoy Frazer just said, but also note that the Bronx
21 shootings and homicides were also down this year.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Wanted to ask as
23 well with that, we've also--I wouldn't necessarily
24 say we're seeing an increase of it. But because of
25 the cameras and video and all of that that's out

1
2 there now, we are bringing to light so many of the--
3 the incidents that are happening in terms of fights
4 that are happening after school time recess. So we've
5 seen through these videos whether in Brooklyn, New
6 York we've seen at the McDonald's both at Erasmus as
7 well as in my district on Flatbush Avenue and Fulton.
8 And I understand there are other incidents that are
9 happening. What's--what are--what is the thought
10 process in terms of how the DA's office can
11 participate in bringing some solutions to this
12 particular matter? Because we certainly want to work
13 in partnership?

14 LEROY FRAZER: Well, we certainly have to
15 learn as we go along. I mean, you mentioned the
16 videos, the proliferation of things that takes place
17 on the Internet as a result of you'll see the fight
18 at McDonald's starts. The next thing you know, it's
19 posted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Uh-huh.

21 LEROY FRAZER: It is actually helpful to
22 some extent because it helps you identify who the
23 actors are. I think we have to just continue to
24 focus on what is developing in terms of all the new
25 electronics and the social media. And we have to

1 stay on top of social media, and try to do as we
2 always do, stay one step ahead.

3
4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Uh-huh. Thank you
5 and my final question I wanted to ask, Mrs. Brennan,
6 your testimony was so eye opening. And I look
7 forward to working with Chair Gibson and others in
8 terms of advocating because she certainly showed the
9 power of preventing something before it spirals out
10 of control. But, could you just talk briefly, and
11 you may have done so. I may--I came in, in the
12 middle of your testimony--to talk about who exactly
13 are we seeing in terms of who's utilizing heroin at
14 these levels? Because you talk about prescription
15 dugs, and we have stereotypes about who's utilizing
16 prescription drugs and those sorts of things. But,
17 when it comes to heroin uses, where's the problem
18 most prevalent in our boroughs? Who's actually
19 utilizing it. Is it a younger problem or an older
20 problem or something of that. It's not a budget
21 question, but I just wanted to know if you could
22 touch on that.

23 BRIDGET BRENNAN: I think what we're
24 seeing now with heroin abuse is that it cuts across
25 all strata, all demographics from old to you. I

1 looked at the most recent Health Department
2 statistics on the neighborhoods with the highest
3 heroin overdose rates. Three of them are in the
4 South Bronx, if I recall. Areas that have long had
5 heroin problems, and were consistent with the old
6 view of heroin that is kind of a drug of the urban
7 impoverished areas. But the three highest areas, or
8 the two other highest areas of density of heroin
9 overdoses deaths were in Staten Island. In areas that
10 were really untouched previously. And that's what we
11 see across the board. There's no little pigeon hole
12 that you can put the heroin user in now. Now, heroin
13 is so pure, the heroin that's being sold out on the
14 street that often it's snorted or tasted. And I've
15 heard of kids sprinkling it on beers. And so that
16 the prospect of using the needle and cooking up
17 heroin and injecting it. Which might, you know,
18 scare some people off, that's not how they're
19 starting on it.

21 That's ultimately you'll see the addicts
22 going there, but that's not how they're starting it.
23 And often the addiction begins with a prescription
24 pill addiction. So that the content of the pill
25 Oxycodone is the one we see most frequently used.

1 Basically, it's an opioid. It's the same thing
2 that's in heroin. It's in a different form. And so,
3 the addiction can be satisfied once the user becomes--
4 --develops a tremendous habit. And the pills are very
5 expensive out on the street. They were before there
6 was more intense regulation by the state, we saw the
7 same pattern. That the pill addicts would then morph
8 over to heroin. That's long been the case because
9 there's--it's all opioids. Heroin satisfies that
10 addiction more quickly especially if you inject, and
11 it's cheaper. You know, those are dime bags, which
12 are now going for-- Dime bags means they're \$10 bags.
13 Well, now, we're seeing them go \$5.00, \$7.00. It
14 depends on where you're buying. It's all about
15 geography.

17 DANIEL MASTER: [off mic] Can I add to
18 that, please? [on mic] Before Staten Island became
19 heroin's new hometown in the words of the New York
20 Times, we led the city in prescription pill
21 overdoses. And what we're seeing after the
22 implementation of the I-STOP Program, which was
23 essentially tracking what doctors are prescribing to--
24 --to patients. We're seeing a drying up of the pills
25 and pills becoming more expensive. So now when pills

1 are \$50, people would prefer to go and buy decks of
2 heroin with that \$50 because it would last them more
3 than the one pill. So that's what we're seeing on
4 Staten Island. We're seeing this--this transition,
5 transitioning from the Oxycontin pills, which again
6 are opioid based to heroin. And it happened very
7 quickly, directly after the implementation of I-STOP.

9 BRIDGET BRENNAN: But I wouldn't want you
10 to think that I-STOP is a bad program. You have to
11 take the long view, and what you want to do is
12 prevent the introduction of an opioid addiction, and
13 you want to prevent the habit from every developing.
14 And those opioid pills are probably in your medicine
15 cabinet at home right now. And if they are, you
16 should dump them down the toilet. Here in New York
17 City, the Department of Environmental Protection says
18 yes you may do that. Don't let those things sit
19 around if you don't need them. Because people come
20 into your home. And we've seen it, we've heard about
21 it from young people's homes and take them out of the
22 medicine cabinet. There's way too many of them out
23 there. That's how they get out there. It's the
24 surplus, which leads to the addiction.

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2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Just as
3 follow up, I know there are many people at home that
4 watch these hearings. For moms or grandmoms that are
5 you watching, what do--you know, we know heroin and
6 we know that's bad. But, for example, after I gave
7 birth, I got Percocet. So what are the things that
8 people should be looking for in their medicine
9 cabinet that perhaps they can either lock up
10 separately or dump. I don't know if the toilet is
11 the best place to dump pills.

12 BRIDGET BRENNAN: Well, the Health
13 Department says yes.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay, the
15 Health Department says yes.

16 BRIDGET BRENNAN: And I'm all for the
17 Health Department. I'm for getting rid of them.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
19 [interposing] And I hear DEP says something else.

20 BRIDGET BRENNAN: DEP says yes.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay,

22 BRIDGET BRENNAN: They checked with DEP
23 before they said that.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay. So
25 we can dump them--

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2 BRIDGET BRENNAN: [interposing] And I am
3 saying that.

4 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: --in the
5 toilet. What--what other things should be--?

6 BRIDGET BRENNAN: Well, Percocet is
7 actually Oxycodone. It's 10 milligrams of Oxycodone.
8 That's the basic and what you see is--it depends on
9 if you have generic, but I'm getting some advice over
10 here on the side.

11 MALE SPEAKER: [off mic] The Oxy 30s.

12 BRIDGET BRENNAN: Oh, yeah, the Oxy 30s.
13 They're--they're called Blues by the addicts around--
14 in the street market. Those are the ones, which are
15 by far the most popular. And the combination of
16 Tylenol and Oxy--I'm blanking on the name. It begins
17 with a V. Vicodin. That's another pop--no Fentanyl
18 --Fentanyl patches. You would not believe how many
19 people are abusing Fentanyl. Fentanyl--Fentanyl
20 patches, Fentanyl lollipops. Those have a big--
21 they'[re very expensive, but they have--they fetch
22 quite price on the black market as well. Anything
23 like that that contains an opioid just rid of it. If
24 you're not using it, why keep it around? It's only
25 going to attract trouble. Just rid of it. If you

1 don't like the idea of throwing it down the toilet
2 because, you know, in some environmentally sensitive
3 areas, where they have wells and they're concerned
4 about groundwater pollution, they do not advocate
5 doing that. What they advocate doing is put it in
6 old used grounds of coffee. Put it into something
7 that's going to break it down and make it
8 unattractive and put it out in the garbage.

9
10 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay.

11 Thank you very much. Council Member Miller.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam
13 Chair and Co-Chair, and thank you to the district
14 attorneys for being here today. It's so good to see
15 you again, and in particular my district attorney,
16 Judge Brown, always a pleasure. I see that there
17 were a number of forfeitures from a number of large
18 banks. Are they--I'm not sure if they were total
19 forfeitures or were there settlements? And my
20 question first is, were any of these settlements or
21 forfeitures related to foreclosures or deed thefts or
22 second mortgages, anything of that nature.

23 CYRUS VANCE: The answer is no. The
24 forfeitures from the bank settlements as it pertains
25 to the work of our office are all related to banks,

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2 essentially falsifying documentation. So that
3 American regulators would not be able to identify
4 that the funds moving through the banking system were
5 related to either sanctioned countries around Libya
6 and Sudan or individuals.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay, great so
8 that--but I do want to kind of sit on that line of
9 questioning because we--it's something that we have
10 seen in our district in Queens and many of the outer
11 boroughs with high homeownership and dealing with
12 some of our not-for-profits who are--don't have the
13 resources and aren't able to pursue deed theft. So
14 my question is really around the area of deed theft,
15 and what, if anything, are your offices doing to
16 prevent this? And in cases that you have identified,
17 such scams and schemes have there been investigations
18 and penalties beyond civil penalties in this matter
19 of forgery?

20 RICHARD BROWN: I'm going to have Jack
21 Ryan, who's our Chief Assistant respond to your
22 questions. Because as we were coming here in the car
23 today, I asked him to check with our--to get on the
24 Crimes Office, and see what it is specifically number
25

1 wise and otherwise they would be doing in that area.

2 So, Jack, with your permission.

3
4 JACK RYAN: Members of the Council,
5 councilmen, obviously we--we're well aware of how
6 serious the problem is and we--

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
8 [interposing] I'm so sorry. Can you just state your
9 name for the record?

10 JACK RYAN: Yes.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I know
12 your name, but if you can just state it for the
13 record.

14 JACK RYAN: Well, just for the record,
15 it's John M. Ryan instead of Jack Ryan. [laughs]
16 Thank you. I'm the Assistant DA in Queens. It's
17 been a serious problem for a number of years. It
18 went back. In 2013, we opened 123 cases. In 2014,
19 104. Year to date we have 57. Each case could
20 involve a various number of houses. A case could be
21 one house, a case could be several dozen houses.
22 We've gotten--we're getting between 10 and 25
23 convictions per year. The sentences vary. White
24 collar crime is not easy to get a jail sentence, but
25 we have gotten State jail in a number of these cases.

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It is an ongoing problem. It's almost at times a daily problem, and various offshoots of the same issue as far as someone is finding out that somebody else has the deed to their home, and then we have to straighten that out. We also work with them to try and get their title restored to the appropriate name. We've done these cases with our own detectives. We've done it with the Financial Crimes Task Force of the Police Department. We've done it with the State Police. We've been very active with the New York City Sheriff. We've also done a couple cases with the FBI on it.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: So obviously in the district this is becoming an overwhelming problem I would think like every fourth block has a squatter or someone has a story about someone taking a second mortgage on their home. So I'd love to--to have a further offline conversation as to how we can address this, and what needs to be done.

JACK RYAN: We had one case a number of years ago where they put the house in the name of Raymond Kelly who at the time was employed by the city.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Absolutely.

There's a lot of that going on. So, and my next question and I'll put my labor hat back on, and I see that there was a--there were a number of bonuses given out to employees to a number of the officers over there, which I kind of applaud. I certainly applaud because I think that for the work that is being done, that they certainly should be compensated and resources aren't always there. So I'm thankful when that happens. In these--am I correct then that these came from the forfeiture, seizures and bonuses did the money come from?

ROBERT JOHNSON: No, in the Bronx they come from accruals when we have accruals.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay.

LEROY FRAZER: Yes, you're not allowed to use forfeiture funds for our person--personnel. In Brooklyn last year we had received funding for new positions [bell] and in searching for the best qualified people, it took longer than expected. But generated some savings. That in addition to attrition allowed for savings and allowed for savings to allow for the bonuses to be available.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay. Did--did
3 that include the--the DA's investigators? Are they
4 included in the bonuses?

5 LEROY FRAZER: No, they--they were not
6 included. I--I will say that we attempted to do so.
7 We spoke with-- because--We spoke with the city and
8 because they're at an impasse with their negotiations
9 presently, we were strongly advises by the Office of
10 Labor Relations not to include these.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Are you serious?
12 We prevented that from happening?

13 BRIDGET BRENNAN: I can tell you--Bridget
14 Brenna--I can tell you that in my office we have
15 previously given out bonuses to investigators. And
16 then there was an unfair labor practice filed against
17 us for giving out bonuses. And when I wanted to do
18 it again, I actually negotiated with the head of the
19 union that I would be allowed to do it without
20 generating an unfair labor practice. Because the
21 concept is that bargaining wages is a contractual
22 obligation between the city and the investigators.
23 And so that was the basis for the unfair labor
24 practice. So, I--I didn't do it, and then managed to
25 negotiate and agreement where I was allowed to do it.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Do anyone know--
3 is that agreement currently--have we arrived at the
4 CBA there or they--?

5 BRIDGET BRENNAN: It was a one-time
6 agreement. I mean it was only for that particular,
7 you know, incident.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: [interposing] Do
9 they currently have a contract? Does anyone know?

10 LEROY FRAZER: They do not and we also
11 negotiated a one-time agreement, but I think what OLR
12 is telling Brooklyn that because of the timing right
13 now in the status and the bargaining that it's a bad
14 time to do that. That's--that's my sense.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: And in that
16 bargaining, which you are bargaining with OLR--OLR.

17 LEROY FRAZER: Correct.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: And--and that
19 bargaining is ongoing--

20 LEROY FRAZER: [interposing] Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: --to your
22 knowledge?

23 LEROY FRAZER: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay, thank you.
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2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay,
3 we've collected everybody's three seconds.
4 [laughter] Thank you so much for coming to testify
5 today. [off mic] Do you want to ask your question
6 after all? [sic]

7 CHAIRPERSON GIBSON: I just wanted to ask
8 a question. So we've been getting a lot of concerns,
9 at least I know I have about the case of synthetic--
10 synthetic marijuana that's been creeping into our
11 communities, and our grocery stores. So I just
12 wanted to know if any of you could share your
13 thoughts. Because we're really looking at the
14 Council. The Speaker has been very concerned about
15 it in terms of legislation, and what we could really
16 do to either prohibit, ban, get it out of our
17 communities. Because I've also spoken to several
18 police officers where there have been several people
19 hospitalized based on the synthetic marijuana. So I
20 just wanted to know if you guys have any thoughts on
21 that.

22 BRIDGET BRENNAN: [off mic] You want me
23 to? [on mic] It's--it's--actually it's a synetic--
24 synthetic cannabinoid. It's more similar to PCP than
25 it is to marijuana I would say. The problem with

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2 regulating it is the chemical--the way we regulate
3 any drugs we define them by their chemical
4 components, and with this particular stuff they keep
5 changing the component of it. So the minute there's,
6 you know, we've defined it, and there's regulation
7 with respect to it--the components are tweaked
8 somewhat so that it no longer matches the definition
9 in law. I'm now working with a number of people from
10 the DA's offices here in the city and across the
11 state and with OASIS to try to come up with a
12 definition, which would scoop it in. Any new federal
13 law defines it as an analogue, which means it's
14 similar enough. And so, that's what we're advocating
15 now. But it's--it's a huge problem. There are lot
16 of people who are devoting attention to it, and I'd
17 be happy to work more with you on it in the future.

18 LEROY FRAZER: I also want to add a
19 caveat to this. Even if we do define it that--that
20 way that it's so inclusive, it could add an economic
21 burden on the--on the laboratories, the cost of
22 laboratories because we have to have tests in order
23 to make a prosecution

24 [banging noise]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you very much. Today--this includes our hearing from today. The Finance Committee will resume Executive Budget hearings next Tuesday, May 26th, at 10:00 a.m. in this room. Next Tuesday, the Finance Committee will be hearing from the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Environmental Protection. As a reminder, the public will be invited to testify again on June 9th, the last day of budget hearings at approximately 1:30 p.m. in this room.

For any member of the public who wishes to testify but cannot make it to the hearing, you can email your testimony to the Finance Division at financetestimony@council.nyc.gov, and the staff will make it a part of the official record. Thank you, and I hope that you uses this Memorial Day Weekend to remember all those fight for our liberties and those that have lost their lives. Please stay safe. This hearing is now adjourned.

[gavel]

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE JOINTLY WITH
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date May 25, 2014